



Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-92-121
Tuesday
23 June 1992

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-92-121

CONTENTS

23 June 1992

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

FRONT PAGE

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

CIS Nuclear Tests Not Ruled Out in 1993 [Hamburg BILD AM SONNTAG 21 Jun]	2
Norwegian Minister Calls For Testing Moratorium [ITAR-TASS]	2
Russia Not 'Entirely Prepared' To Implement CFE [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Jun]	2
Grachev Defends Strategic Arms Cut Accords [IZVESTIYA 23 Jun]	2
Quick Elimination of Nuclear Arms 'Detrimental' [INTERFAX]	4
Preparations at Nuclear Test Site 'Going Ahead' [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 18 Jun]	4
Power Stations Bring 'Apocalypse' 'Closer' [Russian TV]	5

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Paris Club Grants Deferment on Foreign Debt [ITAR-TASS]	6
U.S. Stance at CSCE Karabakh Talks 'Decisive' [IZVESTIYA 20 June]	6
U.S. Military Delegation Visits Baltic Fleet [Moscow TV]	6
EBRD To Help Baltics Arrange Troop Withdrawal [BALTFAX]	7
Gorbachev on Solution to Middle East Crisis [ITAR-TASS]	7
Remarks on Yeltsin's U.S. Talks [ITAR-TASS]	7
World Congress of Tatars Opens in Kazan [ITAR-TASS]	7
Congress Concludes [ITAR-TASS]	8

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

CIS Leaders' Meeting To Focus on Border Issue [INTERFAX]	9
CIS States Introduce Uniform Customs Tariff [INTERFAX]	9
Officers' Assembly Coordination Meeting Held [Moscow TV]	9
More on Officers' Meeting [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Jun]	9
Caspian Fleet Protests Over Azeri Treatment [ITAR-TASS]	10
No Visa Requirement for Latvians, Lithuanians [BALTFAX]	10
Norway Signs Agreements With Baltic States [BALTFAX]	10
Television Program Reviews Weekly Events [ITAR-TASS]	10

RUSSIA

International Affairs

Yeltsin Warns Snegur Over Bendery Events	12
Russia 'Obligated to React' [ITAR-TASS]	12
14th Army To Defend Itself [ITAR-TASS]	12
Dniester Commission Formed [Russian TV]	12
Government Warned [IZVESTIYA 23 Jun]	13
Deputies Report on Trip To North, South Ossetias	14
Memorandum Addressed to Khasbulatov [ITAR-TASS]	14
Status of South Ossetia Noted [INTERFAX]	14
Disagreement on Khasbulatov Stance [ITAR-TASS]	14
Georgians Protest Khasbulatov's Statement [ITAR-TASS]	14
Shevardnadze Makes 'Accusation'; Leaders React	15
Rutskoy Denies Accusation [ITAR-TASS]	15
Defense Ministry Denies Accusation [ITAR-TASS]	15
Filatov Denies Accusation [INTERFAX]	15
Further on Filatov Remarks [ITAR-TASS]	16
More on Comments [Radio Rossii]	16
Correspondents Protest Ossetian 'Genocide' [ITAR-TASS]	16
Rutskoy Postpones Vladikavkaz Trip [INTERFAX]	16
Leaves for North Ossetia [Moscow International]	17
Georgian Gas Supplies 'Terminated in Full' [INTERFAX]	17
Objections Made to Georgia's UN Membership [Moscow TV]	17
South Ossetian Gives Moscow News Conference [INTERFAX]	17

Official on Russians' Plight in S. Ossetia [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 23 Jun]	17
Patriarch Appeals for Peace Settlement in Ossetia [Radio Rossii]	19
Russian, Ukrainian Delegations Hold Meetings	19
Yeltsin Previews Dagomys Talks [ITAR-TASS]	19
Documents Noted [INTERFAX]	20
Yeltsin Arrives, Comments [Moscow TV]	20
Talks Begin [ITAR-TASS]	20
Crimea Issue Viewed [INTERFAX]	20
Customs Check Points Agreed Upon [ITAR-TASS]	21
Quadrilateral Meeting on Dniester Set [ITAR-TASS]	21
Kozyrev Comments [ITAR-TASS]	21
'Progress' Made on 'Sharing' Fleet [AFP]	22
Central Bank Says Ukrainian Bank Insolvent [INTERFAX]	22
Khasbulatov Denies Serbian Intervention Threats [Belgrade TANJUG]	22
Sanctions Against Serbia Said 'Hasty' [INTERFAX]	22
Prompt Recognition of Macedonia Urged [INTERFAX]	23
Estonian, Russian Bank Officials Continue Talks [BALTFAX]	23
Cooperation Agreements Signed [ITAR-TASS]	23
Economic Agreements Signed [INTERFAX]	24
Servicemen's Wages in Kroons [Moscow Radio]	24
Weapons Shipment Still Impounded in Estonia [IZVESTIYA 17 Jun]	24

Federation Affairs

Yeltsin Urges Tatarstan To Take 'Civilized Path' [INTERFAX]	25
Shakhrai on Government Bill, Yeltsin Future [IZVESTIYA 19 Jun]	25
Gaydar Cited on Prices, Government Changes [Radio Rossii]	27
Rutskoy Assures Security Chiefs of Support [ITAR-TASS]	27
Shumeyko, Rutskoy Map Out Industrial Strategy [Russian TV]	27
Khasbulatov Says Yeltsin Decrees 'Worst of All' [INTERFAX]	28
Opposition Against Decrees on Sale of Land [INTERFAX]	28
Chubays Discusses Taxation, Agriculture Needs [Moscow Radio]	28
Nechayev Says Reform Plan To Be Confirmed [Moscow Radio]	28
No Plans To Offset Enterprise Debts Seen [INTERFAX]	28
Army Paper Claims Factions 'Have Been Warned' [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Jun]	29
Grachev on Military Tasks, Officer Pay [ARGUMENTY I FAKTY Jun]	29
Defense Ministry Agrees To Sell Weapons Abroad [Russian TV]	30
Proceeds From Military Sales To Aid Servicemen [Radio Rossii]	30
Lottery Set Up To Fund Servicemen Housing [Russian TV]	30
Order on Chemical Weapon Destruction Reviewed [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 20 Jun]	31
Further on Interior Ministry Crime Briefing [Moscow Radio]	31
'Whole Spectrum' of Politics Met at Lubyanka [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 18 Jun]	31
Leaders Together for 'First Time' [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 18 Jun]	32
Yeltsin's Appointment of Gaydar Considered [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 16 Jun]	32
Foreign Ministry Meeting With Parties Reviewed [KURANTY 20 May]	33
Yeltsin Enacts Decrees on Export Duties [INTERFAX]	34
Yeltsin Decree on Foreign Payments in 1992 [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 17 Jun]	37
Decree on Productive Forces, Cooperation Eyed [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 17 Jun]	39

Moscow Rallies Continue

Ostankino Beset; Communists Rally in Manezh	39
Moscow Soviet Backs Picketers [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 19 Jun]	39
Luzhkov Warns Against Meetings [Radio Rossii]	39
Opposition Broadcasts To Air [Moscow Radio]	40
OMON Activated [INTERFAX]	40
'Nothing Special Happened' [Moscow Radio]	40
14 Protestors Detained [ITAR-TASS]	40
Communists, Nationalists Rally at Exhibition	41
'Totalled About 5,000' [Radio Rossii]	41
Clash With Police [INTERFAX]	41

Supreme Soviet

Deputies Argue Over Blame in Ostankino Protests [ITAR-TASS]	41
Authorities Called 'Passive' [Russian TV]	42

Law on Formation of Ingush Republic Released [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 17 Jun]	42
Resolution Issued [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 17 Jun]	42
Hearings on Presidential Budget Message Begin [ITAR-TASS]	43
Bank Actions Against Ukraine May Be Supported [INTERFAX]	43
Draft Economic Decrees To Be Studied [POSTFACTUM]	44
Retired Military To Receive Aid for Farms [POSTFACTUM]	44
Laws on Refugees, Forced Migrants Reviewed [INTERFAX]	44

Regional Affairs

Troops Reportedly on Stand-By in N. Ossetia [Radio Rossii]	44
North Ossetian Deputy on Khasbulatov Statement [IZVESTIYA 17 Jun]	45
Moscow City Council Adopts Appeals to Yeltsin [INTERFAX]	45
Hospital's Plight Typifies Health Sector Ills [Moscow TV]	45
Moscow Region Joint Ventures To Be Audited [ITAR-TASS]	45
Sobchak Urges End to Economic Paralysis [Radio Rossii]	46
St. Petersburg Region 'Has Started To Glow' [PRAVDA 16 Jun]	46
Makharadze Tours Maritime Kray, Views Reforms [Vladivostok Radio]	46
Tatarstan Food Checks Practical, Not 'Political' [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 16 Jun]	47
Tatarstan To Invest Export Earnings in Oil [INTERFAX]	47
Turkey To Deliver Textbooks to Tatar Schools [POSTFACTUM]	48

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Kravchuk on Talks in France, Ties With Russia [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 19 Jun]	49
Flow of Russian Oil for Export Cut by 25% [Moscow TV]	51

National Affairs

Meeting With Crimean Parliamentarians Opens [ITAR-TASS]	51
Citizenship, Property Accord [ITAR-TASS]	51
Kravchuk Issues Order on Border Control Points [Moscow Radio]	51
Demonstrators Demand Government's Resignation [UKRINFORM]	51
Former Communist Party Head on PRAVDA Report [ITAR-TASS]	52
Supreme Soviet on Orthodox Church Council [Kiev Radio]	52
Defense Ministry Group Begins First Private Work [Kiev International]	52
Servicemen Train for Work Outside Armed Forces [Kiev Radio]	52
Crimean Tatars Form Military Construction Unit [UKRINFORM]	53

WESTERN REGION

Byelarus

Presidium Approves Forces Treaty, Protocols [ITAR-TASS]	54
Russia To Finance Republic's Defense Industry [INTERFAX]	54
Armed Forces To Switch to Byelarusian Language [ITAR-TASS]	54
Rubles To Circulate With National Bank Notes [ITAR-TASS]	54
Country 'Not Threatened by Social Explosions' [ITAR-TASS]	54

Moldova

Ministry Protests Russian 'Intervention' [ITAR-TASS]	55
Defense Minister Cited on Actions in Bendery [ITAR-TASS]	55
Chisinau Claims Russians Mislead Public Opinion [Bucharest ROMPRES]	55
Snegur Says 14th Army Occupies Eastern Regions [Moscow TV]	56
Differing Accounts Given of Bendery Hostilities [INTERFAX]	56
Defense Ministry Updates 22 Jun Situation [INTERFAX]	56
14th Army Deputy Commander on Situation, Moves [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 23 Jun]	57
Army MiGs Bomb Parkany; Fighting Continues [Moscow Radio]	57
Details of Attack [ITAR-TASS]	57
Russian Ministry Reports Raid [Radio Rossii]	58
Minister Denies Bombing [Radio Rossii]	58
Air Surveillance Confirmed [ITAR-TASS]	58
Romanian Officers Sent To Act as Observers [IZVESTIYA 23 Jun]	58
Romania Denies Planning To Send Pilots [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 23 Jun]	58
Romanians Allegedly Involved in Conflict [Radio Rossii]	59

New Mixed Commission To Draw Up Resolution	[INTERFAX]	59
Moldovan Leaders Agree To Dniester Cease-Fire	[ITAR-TASS]	59
Cease-Fire Announced	[Bucharest Radio]	59
Cease-Fire Violations Reported	[Bucharest ROMPRES]	59
Bendery 'in Ruins': Casualties Reported	[Moscow Radio]	59
Casualties Reported	[ITAR-TASS]	60
More on Casualties	[AFP]	60
Snegur Sends Message to UN Secretary General	[ITAR-TASS]	61
Snegur on 'Offensive'; UN Team To Arrive	[ITAR-TASS]	61
Parliament Appeals to World Community for Help	[Bucharest Radio]	61
Bendery Prisoners Released 'To Kill Civilians'	[Radio Rossii]	62
Dniester Guards Reportedly Pull Out of Bendery	[Moscow Radio]	62
Quadrupartite Meeting Underway in Chisinau	[Bucharest ROMPRES]	62

CENTRAL ASIA

Tajikistan

Parliament Presidium Threatens To Resign	[ITAR-TASS]	63
National Salvation Committee Leader Interviewed	[Dushanbe Radio]	63
Government Forces Control Kurgan-Tyube Oblast	[Dushanbe Radio]	64
Further on Shooting	[Dushanbe Radio]	64
Government Introduces Border Guard Posts	[ITAR-TASS]	64

Turkmenistan

Commission Approves Niyazov Reelection	[INTERFAX]	64
Further on Election Results	[INTERFAX]	65
Troops Reportedly Violate Afghan Border	[POSTFACTUM]	65

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Supreme Soviet Discusses Nagorno-Karabakh	[Yerevan Radio]	66
President Decrees Internal Troops Organization	[Yerevan Radio]	67
Minister Proposes Martial Law in Border Areas	[Radio Rossii]	68
Russian Ambassador Comments on Goals, Plans	[ITAR-TASS]	68
Further on Remarks	[ITAR-TASS]	68
Border Regions 'Tense'; Further on Shelling	[Yerevan Radio]	68
Commentary Assesses Russian Involvement	[Yerevan Radio]	69

Azerbaijan

Armenian Claims of Russian Help Rejected	[Moscow Radio]	70
Ministry Confirms Russians Serving in Forces	[Russian TV]	70
Further Reportage on Fighting, Border Offensive	[Baku Radio]	70
'Fierce Fighting' Reported	[Radio Rossii]	71
'Mass Offensive' Noted	[ITAR-TASS]	71
Armenian Offensive 'Repelled'	[Ankara Radio]	71
23d Division Chief on Media 'Fabrications'	[PRAVDA 18 Jun]	72
Nakhichevan's Aliyev on Turkish Role, Interests	[Russian TV]	72
Officials Note Economic Goals, Programs	[INTERFAX]	72

Georgia

Shevardnadze Previews Yeltsin Meeting in Dagomys	[ITAR-TASS]	73
Meeting in Doubt	[ITAR-TASS]	73
Russia Not To Oppose UN Entry	[Moscow Radio]	73
Shevardnadze Interviewed 22 Jun on Situation	[Budapest Radio]	73
Note Protests Russian Violation of Sovereignty	[POSTFACTUM]	75
Shevardnadze's 'Open Letter' to Rutskoy Viewed	[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 23 Jun]	75
Tskhinvali Shelling Continues; Situation Updated	[Moscow Radio]	75
Militia Unable To Cope With 'Bandit Groups'	[Tbilisi Radio]	75
National Guard To Maintain Public Security	[POSTFACTUM]	76
Ossetian Leader Blames Party for Village Attack	[POSTFACTUM]	76

Russian Government Issues Warning to Moldova

ITAR-TASS reports that upon his return to Moscow following his North American trip, President Yeltsin stated that he was "very alarmed at the latest events in Bendery, Moldova". Yeltsin said "I would like...to warn President Snegur. We, of course, are for resolving issues at the negotiating table, by political means." However, "in the final analysis we are simply obliged to react, to protect people, and to stop the bloodshed. We have the forces for this, and Snegur should know it."

Russian TV reports a statement made by Foreign Minister Kozyrev in which he said that "if just one more shell lands on a military compound or hits a civilian estate, 10 shells will be fired in the opposite direction."

Moldova Denies Bendery Bombing

Moldova denied reports that MiG fighter planes bombed the city of Bendery on 22 June, according to ITAR-TASS. A Defense Ministry spokesman said two MiG-29 fighters flew over the region "on a surveillance mission" and that explosions of shells going on at the time could have been mistaken for air bombardment. The Foreign Ministry protested to Moscow against "its alleged military intervention" in Dniester and demanded "explanations from the Russian Foreign Ministry."

Nuclear Tests Could Resume in Russia

In an interview with Hamburg's BILD AM SONNTAG CIS Commander in Chief Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov stated the CIS decision to halt nuclear tests holds "until the end of the year." If other nuclear powers "fail to announce a halt to nuclear testing" by the year's end, he claimed, Russia "will be forced to resume its test series next year." However, if the nuclear states do announce a moratorium on testing then Russia is "ready to continue to abstain."

Russia Not Ready To Implement CFE

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA reports that an analysis made through the Russian Federation Ground Forces Main Staff indicates that "the state is not entirely prepared" to implement the "main aspects of the CFE Treaty." Problems stem from inspections made at Russian troop locations "outside Russian territory, in its 'hot spots'" in regard to the weapons held there.

Leaders Comment on Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict

Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan spoke at a 22 June Supreme Soviet session, reports Yerevan Radio. The leader cited the causes for failure in Nagorno-Karabakh as the following: "the Nagorno-Karabakh problem has been turned into a trump card used in struggles between parties in both Karabakh and Armenia"; and the Nagorno-Karabakh authorities never thought nor attempted to augment their military successes with political and diplomatic steps, which is "unforgivable." The Armenian defense minister also addressed the Supreme Soviet session and said that "the latest military failures in Shaumyanovskiy Rayon...must be seen as a cruel and yet natural aspect of war." He noted that "only those who draw lessons from temporary failures, mobilize themselves, and continue the struggle with resolve gain final victory."

Regarding the Armenian claims of Russia's involvement on the Azeri side in the conflict, the Azerbaijan presidential press service noted that the "accusations against Russia of aiding and abetting Azerbaijan...are groundless and without foundation", reports Moscow Radio. The Azerbaijan Defense Ministry did confirm, however, that "soldiers of Russian nationality, who are citizens of the Azerbaijan Republic, are serving in the ranks of the republic's self-defense forces", notes Russian TV.

CIS Nuclear Tests Not Rule Out in 1993*AU2206105892 Hamburg BILD AM SONNTAG
in German 21 Jun 92 pp 4-5*

[Interview with Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Armed Forces, by F. Weckbach-Mara; place and date not given: "Russians Threaten To Resume Nuclear Testing"]

[Text] [Weckbach-Mara] How much longer does the CIS decision to halt nuclear tests still hold?

[Shaposhnikov] Until the end of the year. If by then the other nuclear powers fail to announce a halt to nuclear testing, Russia will be forced to resume its test series next year. However, if the others make such an announcement, we are ready to continue to abstain from testing.

[Weckbach-Mara] How many states on the territory of the former USSR have nuclear arms now?

[Shaposhnikov] The nuclear weapons of the former USSR are now stationed on the territory of Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine. They are under the supreme command of the CIS. The president of the Russian Federation, Boris Yeltsin, has his finger on the button for using these weapons in an emergency. Nevertheless, it is our objective to eliminate all nuclear arms from the surface of the earth. A first step in that direction is a general ban on nuclear testing. The next step is the planned destruction of all nuclear weapons and other kinds of weapons of mass destruction under mutual control.

[Weckbach-Mara] Will the CIS Armed Forces or armies of individual member states participate in military peace-keeping operations, for example in Azerbaijan or Yugoslavia?

[Shaposhnikov] Our regular Armed Forces have other tasks. However, for such cases we will set up groups of military observers and "collective forces for keeping the peace."

Norwegian Minister Calls For Testing Moratorium*LD2306145892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1410 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Loskutov]

[Text] Oslo June 23 TASS—Norway's Minister of International Affairs Thorvald Stoltenberg called for a moratorium among the four nations that continue to test nuclear weapons.

In a letter addressed to his counterparts in Great Britain, China, Russia, and the United States, Stoltenberg stressed the current world situation offered unprecedented opportunity to conclude an international agreement to stop nuclear weapons' testing.

Norway's initiative, Stoltenberg noted today in a radio interview, follows France's decision to halt nuclear

testing this year, and the urging of U.S. congressional representatives to enact a testing moratorium in the United States. The Russian Government announced its intentions to continue testing as long as the U.S., Great Britain, and China do so.

Russia Not 'Entirely Prepared' To Implement CFE*PM2206192392 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 23 Jun 92 p 3*

[Unidentified own correspondent report: "Problems for Disarmament People Too"]

[Text] A conference dedicated to questions of the implementation of the CFE Treaty on Russian Federation territory in the light of its forthcoming ratification by the Supreme Soviet has been held at the Ground Forces Main Staff. An analysis by collectives at the Ground Forces' center for ensuring the implementation of treaties and in the relevant departments at military district and group of forces directorates shows that the state is not entirely prepared [svidetelstvuyet o nepolnoy gotovnosti gosudarstva] for the implementation of the main aspects of the CFE Treaty. The problems relate, in particular, to inspections of Russian troops located outside Russian territory, in its "hot spots," with regard to the weapons held there.

Grachev Defends Strategic Arms Cut Accords*PM2206202192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 7*

[Interview with Army General P. Grachev, Russian defense minister, by IZVESTIYA special correspondent V. Kononenko and KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondent Captain First Class V. Kuzar; place and date not given: "Russia's Security Will Be More Reliable With Deep Strategic Offensive Arms Cuts"; first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] The Russian and U.S. presidents reached agreement in Washington 17 June on cutting strategic offensive arms. This agreement has met with varying assessments in the mass media—from a breakthrough which will lead to partnership between the two countries in the military sphere to a surrender by Russia of its positions and its loss of the last attribute of a superpower. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and IZVESTIYA correspondents asked Army General P. Grachev, Russian defense minister, to share his thoughts on this subject.

[Grachev] I realize that my fellow countrymen may be concerned about the radical strategic offensive arms cuts envisaged by the accords reached in Washington. But I would like to emphasize right away that this decision was not reached on impulse. It was preceded by protracted expert elaboration. A whole series of options for cutting both sides' nuclear potentials was examined.

The key issue at the Russo-U.S. talks continued to be the question of whether the United States is a partner or a

rival. We had to convince ourselves that Washington, concerned to safeguard the security of its own country, is not striving for an advantage over Russia. When the presidents arrived at the same views on the fundamental problems of security and safeguarding stability in the world it was possible to rapidly work out joint approaches to strategic offensive arms cuts.

In our assessment, the optimum option was selected, and this formed the basis of the agreements. Of course, it may give rise to ambiguous assessments. But I would note that this option was predetermined by the new political, economic, and, particularly, military relationships emerging both between Russia and the United States and between the former USSR republics. At the same time, I would stress yet again that strategic offensive arms remain the main means of safeguarding Russia's national security and are a guarantee of deterrence against nuclear or conventional war.

[IZVESTIYA] Could you explain why such deep strategic offensive arms cuts were necessary? Were those envisaged by the START Treaty signed by the USSR and the United States really insufficient?

[Grachev] The current strategic nuclear potentials of our two countries considerably exceed the nuclear potentials of Britain, France, and China put together, as well as the requirement of safeguarding national security. Essentially, even after the cuts defined by the START Treaty this picture would not have been fundamentally changed. But the United States could have had an almost twofold advantage in numbers of nuclear warheads [zaryad] when counted realistically [pri ikh realnom zaschete].

We need to bear one other obvious truth in mind—the greater the number of weapons, the greater the burden of expenditure on their upkeep. And, of course, piles of nuclear weapons do not strengthen strategic stability.

[IZVESTIYA] Nonetheless, Pavel Sergeyevich, it seems from the accords reached in Washington that the Americans are keeping their most powerful weapon (submarine-launched missiles) whereas we will have to destroy what we have always prided ourselves on—our land-based heavy missiles. Can it be said that both sides are equally preserving their national interests in the security sphere, and that nobody has made any concessions?

[Grachev] I believe that you are thinking of our former concept of parity, which always boiled down to mandatory quantitative equality in the sides' strategic offensive arms. In my view, this has outlived its usefulness. It could be claimed that even if a side had large quantities of nuclear weapons it would be unlikely to risk using them. There is no need to mention the irreversible consequences that this would entail for all mankind.

One country's security cannot and should not be achieved at the expense of the infringement of another country's security interests. Otherwise both countries would "lose out" from the security standpoint. I am

convinced that the question you raised of "concessions" should be approached from this angle.

Like any military man, I am sad to bid farewell to such powerful weapons as heavy MIRVed ICBM's. But those are the realities and requirements of the present day. The fact is that these are the most destabilizing strategic offensive arms. As is well known, a single MIRVed missile can carry up to 10 warheads, but it would take just two or three warheads to destroy the missiles in their silos. So there is a chance that a small number of warheads could destroy a large number of warheads deployed on the other side's MIRVed ICBM's. In a crisis, fear of losing your potential could give rise to the temptation to save MIRVed ICBM's from the threat of attack—in other words, to launch them. This, indeed, is the destabilizing nature of MIRVed ICBM's.

Following the reduction of this type of missile—and it is not only us but the Americans too who are cutting them—the sides will switch to single-warhead ICBM's in their strategic land-based forces. This is a very important point. As is the fact that the process of strategic offensive arms cuts is tied in to observance of the ABM Treaty. If the United States tries to step outside the bounds of this treaty, the accords will immediately lapse.

[IZVESTIYA] Such deep strategic offensive arms cuts will require very considerable spending by both sides. But what "dividends" can we expect as a result?

[Grachev] Of course, from the economic standpoint these cuts in nuclear arsenals will require a considerable amount of spending. But that is just the most obvious aspect. In the foreseeable future this process will lead to a considerable reduction in spending on the upkeep of strategic nuclear forces, and on the development [razrabotka] and production of new missiles. But that is not the end of the matter. Strategic offensive arms cuts will, as you say, pay "dividends" both politically and militarily. After all, implementation of these accords demonstrates the two countries' desire to prevent a nuclear war. It will give a powerful boost to the further positive development of relations with the United States in all spheres. I think that conditions will be created for moving the nuclear arms reduction process onto a multilateral footing.

As for the military aspect, the implementation of the accords we have reached will ensure the further strengthening of strategic stability. The achievement of a low threshold [porog] for strategic offensive arms makes it possible to reduce the likelihood of unsanctioned missile launches. It will promote the maintenance and strengthening of the nuclear weapons nonproliferation regime. The deep cuts in strategic offensive arms also open up the possibility of cutting and subsequently abandoning nuclear testing for military purposes. All this will ultimately lead to improved guarantees that mankind will successfully avoid nuclear war.

[IZVESTIYA] Incidentally, about nuclear tests. Why was it not possible to break the deadlock on this issue in Washington?

[Grachev] It is well known that this problem was touched upon in Washington. Our position is that we are prepared, along with the other nuclear powers, to immediately examine the question of a comprehensive [vseobemylyushchiy] nuclear test ban.

But we proceed on the basis that nuclear tests in the military sphere have two main aims in principle—to develop [otrabotka] new nuclear warheads and to monitor [proverka] the reliability and safety of existing warheads. If a side has no intention of creating [sozdavat] new types of warheads, then there should be no problem in giving up testing in this respect. As for monitoring the reliability and safety of existing nuclear warheads, it seems to me that the sides have already built up sufficient experience. I would like to express the hope that the United States will take all this into account and that the deadlock on the question of a nuclear test ban will be broken.

[IZVESTIYA] To sum up the results of our discussion on the problem of strategic offensive arms cuts—won't the effectiveness of possible retaliation by our strategic nuclear forces be reduced?

[Grachev] Under no circumstances. The calculations done by Russian military scientists show that the figure of 3,000-3,500 warheads is still in excess of the amount required to carry out the Armed Forces' mission. Consequently, if we have effective missile-attack early-warning systems and a reliable battle management system—and we do—then, from a purely military standpoint, we can plan further strategic offensive arms cuts.

Quick Elimination of Nuclear Arms 'Detrimental'

OW2206164192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1415 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "An accelerated schedule of eliminating strategic nuclear armaments may prove detrimental for Russia," said Aleksandr Savelyev, a Russian expert in disarmament, Vice-President of the Russian Institute of National Security and Strategic Studies and a member of the London Institute of Strategic Studies.

He told IF [INTERFAX] on Monday [22 June] that he highly estimated the bracket agreement reached in Washington by Boris Yeltsin and George Bush, according to which the United States' and Russia's strategic nuclear arsenals will be cut down from the aggregate level of 21,000 warheads to 6,000-7,000.

Savelyev believes that Russia should be oriented to the year 2003, not the year 2000. Both of these time-tables

were discussed in Washington. "Even in a normal economic setting, a seven-year schedule would be too tough for Russia." In the current situation such a schedule is simply unreal, he said.

Preparations at Nuclear Test Site 'Going Ahead'

PM1906081592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 18 Jun 92 First Edition p 2

[Parliamentary observer Aleksandr Linkov report under the "Parliamentary Hearings" rubric: "Will Explosions Rock the Island?"]

[Text] Will there or will there not be nuclear tests on Novaya Zemlya? Russian people's deputies decided to examine this in detail at their Sixth Congress. Especially as people living in the north and various social organizations keep sounding the alarm. A torrent of letters and telegrams demanding a complete ban on tests on the island is pouring into the Supreme Soviet. So on 16 June the Committee for Issues Relating to the Environment and the Rational Use of Natural Resources and the Committee for Defense and Security held parliamentary hearings into whether it is advisable for the Novaya Zemlya nuclear test site to continue functioning.

A total of 132 tests have been conducted there since the test site has been in existence, 90 of them in the atmosphere, above ground, or underwater. Following the Moscow agreement, the last 42 explosions have been underground. The designers claim that it is impossible to do without such tests in the natural environment when developing nuclear weapons. Theoretical research can only be confirmed by practical experiment. In laboratory conditions it is impossible to get a real picture of the processes that are occurring. Tests are also necessary to check and improve existing weapons. Today development trends in this weapons sector themselves depend primarily on a political decision, the formulation of Russia's military doctrine, and the drawing up of a blueprint for developing nuclear weapons. But at the moment the country's leadership has none of these.

It is well known that the tests on Novaya Zemlya have been suspended for the time being. But work on preparing previously planned underground tunnels is going ahead. Admittedly, no nuclear charges nor the various monitoring devices have been supplied. Because if this work is stopped, it will take five to six years to start it up again. Incidentally, the cost of one of these tunnels comes to 15-20 million rubles [R], and a borehole costs R8-10 million.

According to an assessment by specialists, the radiation situation on the island is relatively favorable. Nor has it been disrupted during the tests that have been conducted, owing to the carefully manufactured designs.

Russia did not develop any nuclear weapons and had no sites of its own for testing them. All this was done by the leadership of the former Union in the strictest secrecy. It is only now that we are finding out about a lot of things.

The Chernobyl disaster was a serious reminder to everyone of what a dangerous line mankind is treading. It is easy to understand the concerns of the northerners, who are living cheek by jowl not just with a powder keg but with an island stuffed with God knows what. After all, according to existing information, in the past a large amount of radioactive waste was buried deep in the sea near here, and it is not known how it will behave in the future. The Russian Supreme Soviet has still to decide the fate of the Novaya Zemlya archipelago.

Power Stations Bring 'Apocalypse' 'Closer'

LD2206014592

[Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1830 GMT on 16 June carries a 55-minute program entitled "AES [nuclear electric power station]—A Look From Inside."

The program begins with an anonymous former employee describing his work at the Kalininskaya AES. He makes the point that to this day workers' pay is based on the amount of electric power that is generated, but a station like that one cannot work to capacity without endangering safety. Overhaul work leaves a lot to be desired, he adds, and has to be completed in too short of

time. By the end of last November, the station generated 11,039,000,000 (not further specified), well above plan, he notes.

The former employee says this haste is detrimental to safety. For instance, between 29 January and 7 February, the reactor water was dirty and the reactor had to be stopped to remedy this situation. The blueprints are printed on poor quality paper, spare parts badly need replacing, protective clothing is in a bad state of disrepair, and safety rules are sometimes ignored—protective face masks are not worn where they should be worn, for instance.

The director of the station, in a TV interview recorded last December, complains of the woefully inadequate working conditions at the station.

In March the media reported the Balakovo AES fire, the narrator notes, but they failed to tell us how much worse it could have been. It is essential to change attitudes toward nuclear power engineering: wages must not be paid according to output; safety must be paramount. In developed countries, pay does not depend on productivity at nuclear power stations—safety is the primary issue. There is no time to lose, the narrator continues, otherwise every nuclear power station will bring the apocalypse a little closer.

Paris Club Grants Deferment on Foreign Debt*LD2306085892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0826 GMT 23 Jun 92**[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Kuleshov]*

[Text] Paris June 23 TASS—Representatives of 18 creditor countries—the members of the so-called Paris Club—on Monday [22 June] night decided to grant a deferment to the Commonwealth of Independent States for the repayment of the foreign debt until September 30, 1992.

A communique to this effect reports that the creditor states, at their Paris meeting presided over by Jean-Claude Trichet, director of the French Treasury, point out that a further accumulation of overdue payments takes place and that a resolution of this issue is "decisive" for the granting of new credits.

The debtors as well as representatives of the Vneshekonombank reaffirmed their "definite undertaking" to settle all the debts of the former Soviet Union, the communique notes.

The governments of 18 member-countries of the Paris Club account for about 32,000 million U.S. dollars out of the former Soviet Union's foreign debt which amounted to approximately 65 billion dollars, the FRANCE PRESSE News Agency points out.

U.S. Stance at CSCE Karabakh Talks 'Decisive'*PM2306134392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
20 June 92 Morning Edition p 5*

[Aleksandr Sychev report: "War Flares Up in Karabakh While in Rome They Are Counting on a Settlement"]

[Text] At the extraordinary meeting which is taking place in Rome under the auspices of the CSCE to settle the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict the international community "has succeeded in achieving a breakthrough."

This assessment, which appeared briefly in one of the REUTER agency's reports about the fourth day of the Rome forum's work, maybe exaggerates its results. The journalists' emotionalism is understandable against the background of the grim events in Karabakh. The fighting is continuing, the number of victims has gone into the hundreds, and the sides are prepared to allow the death of thousands of peaceful inhabitants in order to achieve military success. Therefore a certain Italian diplomat's assessment in an interview with the REUTER agency seems more realistic: "It is possible to say with great caution that a trend for slow progress is beginning to appear."

As a result of the most complex negotiations, an agreement was nevertheless reached in Rome between Armenia and Azerbaijan to cease hostile actions before the end of June and to get down to negotiations on billeting CSCE observers in the zone of combat operations. However, the question of returning the territories

the Armenians seized in May and the Azerbaijanis seized in recent days—without a resolution of which both republics categorically refuse to participate in the Minsk peace conference—continues to remain open.

The Italian delegation which chaired the Rome meeting extended its work by one more day in the hope of making use of the trend for progress and settling the problem of the seized territories. Although the main obstacle in the way of this—the Karabakh Armenians' refusal to come to Rome—has not been removed, this evidently is not troubling the 11 states participating in the forum, which bear the heavy responsibility of not allowing yet another failure in the CSCE's mediation mission, which was unsuccessful in Yugoslavia. As has become known, the forum's chairman M. Raffaelli will set off for Nagorno-Karabakh in the coming days and try to persuade the Armenians to send their delegation to the conference in Minsk, which, it now seems nobody doubts any longer, will open not on 23 June but later.

The progress made in Rome, if you are to take into consideration the continuing rapid increase in tension in the Transcaucasus, raises the question: Why do the sides which are in conflict not nevertheless reject the negotiations?

It is patently obvious that there are several reasons here: The hostilities caused unexpectedly high losses, and the warring sides do not have sufficient resources to achieve a "decisive" success. Moreover, international reaction is also not unimportant, and is something which neither Armenia nor Azerbaijan—Karabakh even more so—can help but take into consideration.

It was precisely this factor which played a decisive role in Rome. The fact is that the EC adopted a tough stance at this time and the United States effectively issued an ultimatum. "The United States Government," State Department spokesperson M. Tutwiler stated, "resolutely condemns the recent hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh, which threaten to undermine long-term negotiations held in a spirit of goodwill with the purpose of settling the conflict. The quality and nature of U.S. relations with Armenia and Azerbaijan will depend on their adherence to the principles of the CSCE, including the principle of the peaceful settlement of conflicts."

Yet again, as in the recent dispute over the collapsed USSR's nuclear inheritance, Washington's stance proved to be decisive. The West's economic might will for a long time remain a stabilizing factor on "one-sixth of the world's land area."

U.S. Military Delegation Visits Baltic Fleet*LD2206101792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1100 GMT 19 Jun 92*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Eliminating nuclear weapons will take more than just a year but a start has already been made. A report from Kaliningrad:

[Correspondent S. Chekalin] A U.S. military delegation headed by Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Frank Kelso, has

arrived on a visit to Kaliningrad and the Baltiyskiy Naval Base. The delegation was received by Admiral Vladimir Yegorov, commander of the Baltic Fleet. Their talks concerned collective security in Europe, particularly in the northeastern part of the Baltic where, in the view of the American admiral, a new geopolitical reality has come into being. If stability in this area was previously determined by parity between the naval forces of the former USSR and the Atlantic union, since the departure of Russian navy units and ships from the Baltic states this parity could be disturbed and, in the view of the American admiral, this cannot be permitted. In reply to my question on the prospects for cuts in U.S. sea-based nuclear weapons, Admiral Kelso said that as a result of President Yeltsin's historic visit to the United States, there has been a sensational reduction in nuclear arsenals, and it is now possible to start thinking serious about sea-based missiles. That's the next phase, said Admiral Frank Kelso. [video shows U.S. and Russian flags on tables as admirals meet to talk; Kelso shown with correspondent]

EBRD To Help Baltics Arrange Troop Withdrawal

OW2206224192 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1809 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The European Bank of Reconstruction and Development [EBRD] will help the Baltics arrange the withdrawal of Soviet troops from their territories. The agreement was reached by the Latvian, Lithuanian, Estonian leaders and representatives of the EBRD at the international symposium "European House—New Architecture of Europe" in Switzerland last week. One of the main topics of the symposium was integration of the Baltics in the European structures.

Gorbachev on Solution to Middle East Crisis

LD1806171292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0857 GMT 18 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shudro]

[Text] Tel Aviv June 18 TASS—Former Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev does not believe the crisis in the Middle East can be settled through mediation. Only the participants in the conflict can find a solution to it, he said on Wednesday [17 June] at a meeting with Yitzhaq Rabin, the leader of the "Avoda" [Labor] major opposition party.

Gorbachev, however, added his private trip to Israel convinced him it is necessary to visit other countries of the region.

Also on Wednesday [17 June] Gorbachev was awarded the "Peace Medal" of the Ben-Gurion University. Former Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin had been awarded the medal.

Remarks on Yeltsin's U.S. Talks

LD1806171792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0952 GMT 18 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Zhudro]

[Text] Tel Aviv June 18 TASS—Former Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev described as "very important" the agreement on nuclear arms reduction reached by Boris Yeltsin and George Bush.

At the same time, the former Soviet president, in Israel on a private visit, said the nuclear disarmament process will take a long time, while the remaining one third of armaments held by Russia and the U.S. "is an extremely great force".

Gorbachev also said he saw many problems in conversion of the Russian industry, especially in defense-related nuclear industry.

World Congress of Tatars Opens in Kazan

LD1906102992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0942 GMT 19 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Kazan June 19 TASS—The first ever World Congress of Tatars opened in Kazan on Friday [19 June] with 1,200 delegates from the CIS, U.S., Turkey, Finland, Germany, Poland, Japan, Australia, China, Sweden, Norway, Romania and other countries in attendance.

Opening the congress, President Mintimer Shaymiyev of Tatarstan emphasized that the referendum, held in the republic on March 21, 1992, confirmed Tatarstan's political course of becoming a sovereign state. According to Shaymiyev, there are both supporters of preserving the former autonomy and complete breakup relations with Russia in Tatarstan. Neither position is acceptable, the president said.

One can neither waive sovereignty nor break age-old cultural links with Russia. He said that Russia and Tatarstan held four rounds of talks regarding the text of the bilateral treaty. The meeting in June between Russian and Tatar presidents confirmed the need to continue the talks, Shaymiyev said.

According to the president, Tatarstan is forging close economic links with firms from Hungary, the U.S., Turkey, Britain, Canada, Austria and Japan, which are attracted by the republic's raw materials, the industrial and scientific potential, solvency and political stability.

Shaymiyev expressed the conviction that the congress will make a contribution to examining the intellectual life of the Tatar diaspora in the CIS and abroad, its contribution to world culture.

The congress will last four days until June 22.

Congress Concludes

*LD2306100392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0929 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Kazan June 23 TASS—The first World Tatar Congress ended here on Tuesday [23 June]. It has elected

the 25-member executive committee which includes delegates from Tatarstan, countries of the CIS, the United States, Turkey.

This international public organ, to function between congresses, will be mediating in settling ethnic problems, meeting spiritual needs of Tatars living outside Tatarstan. The resolution of the congress expresses the confidence that the ten-million Tatar people will continue living in friendliness with the Russian and other people.

CIS Leaders' Meeting To Focus on Border Issue

OW1906185692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1618 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The coordinator of the working group of the council of heads of state and the council of heads of Commonwealth governments Ivan Korotchenya feels that most debates at the June 26 meeting in Minsk will center on Commonwealth borders. The coordinator said that this is brought about by the Russian government's decision to form border forces.

Another 20 issues will be discussed at the Minsk meeting. They include the creation of a Commonwealth television and radio company, defending the interests of Commonwealth states as its members introduce their own currencies, and on increasing the duties for international shipments, cooperation in public health areas, forming an inter-government committee on the division of non-military ships of the former Soviet Union, cooperation in the use of atomic energy, and ecological issues.

Korotchenya told "IF" [INTERFAX] that the construction of a building in Ninsk for the working group of the Commonwealth will also be discussed. He said that the major share of the cost would be financed by the Russian government. At present the working group operates out of the former communist party building.

CIS States Introduce Uniform Customs Tariff

OW1806161492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1412 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Soon, eight former Soviet republics—Russia, Byelorussia, Armenia, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan—will introduce uniform customs tariffs and a single list of foreign-trade items. A corresponding document has been signed by the CIS's working group in Minsk.

At the request of Byelorussia, the working group considered uniform rules regulating the passage of citizens' private property across the border.

Officers' Assembly Coordination Meeting Held

LD2206133592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 2000 GMT 17 Jun 92

[A. Ostrovskiy video report from Moscow; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] According to a number of sociological services in Russia, servicemen are currently in one of the lowest paid and socially unprotected categories of citizens. Of the officers in the CIS Joint Armed Forces, 76 percent

see a civil war in CIS states as probable. This was noted today at a meeting of the Coordination Council of the Officers' Assembly.

[Ostrovskiy] Nearly six months have passed since the first all Army officers assembly was held in Moscow. Then, worried about the fate of the country and the Armed Forces, the officers-defenders demanded that they be protected against legal and social arbitrariness and ethnic dissension stirred up not only in the republics of the former USSR but also in Army barracks. The issue of a single armed forces was put forward separately.

Today the officers council summed up the results of the politicians' promises. There is no single army. Like combat equipment, people are being divided without due consideration. There is no defense law. Servicemen and their families are mocked in neighboring foreign states. Not dozens, but hundreds of thousands of officers and warrant officers have been left without a roof over their heads. Statesmen have expressed the opinion that the officers assembly should be put at the level of a regiment or garrison, but nobody would hear them there. Then, as a delegate from the Far East noted, military men will have nothing to lose but their chains.

Do you believe there will be a second all Army officers assembly, and is it necessary?

[Begin recording by Ye.I. Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces] Perhaps—not all Army—but perhaps there will be a second stage, starting with republican officers assemblies with the participation of the coordination council and the chief command. Then they could see if a delegates meeting should be held. [end recording]

More on Officers' Meeting

PM2306090592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 20 Jun 92 p 2

[Report by correspondent Lieutenant Colonel S. Popov: "Will Officers Do What Politicians Are Failing To Do?"]

[Text] The main result of the two-day session of the CIS Joint Armed Forces Coordinating Council of officers assemblies was perhaps the idea it developed for an officers' fellowship [sodruzhestvo]—the implementation at a fundamentally new level of collaboration between the officers of all national armies formed during the creation of the new states on the territory of the former Union. As the press conference after the session stressed, we cannot allow yesterday's fellow servicemen ever to look at each other through the sights of a gun. Nor should we underestimate the fact that the commonality of traditions and the cohesion of the officers' corps remain the connecting thread between the regions and could be used as a stabilizing factor, particularly in "trouble spots."

Naturally, the new tasks (the forms of work in resolving them were described by Captain First Rank A.

Mochaykin, Major General Ye. Razinkov, and others) presuppose certain changes to the status and nature of the Coordinating Council. The introduction to it, on a quota basis, of representatives of the national armies, seems the best way.

Probably all questions will be elucidated at the all-army officers' assembly which, the press conference said, may be held no earlier than September or October.

Caspian Fleet Protests Over Azeri Treatment

*LD1806222192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1300 GMT 18 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, June 18 TASS—The Military Council of the Caspian flotilla has protested against arbitrariness towards this fleet's units stationed on Azerbaijan's territory.

ITAR-TASS was told by telephone from Baku that the Military Council forwarded a statement to Azerbaijan's state leadership pointing out that gangster-like attacks on military facilities, theft of the flotilla's property and open interference in its internal affairs have become more frequent lately.

The unlawful seizure of motor vehicles continues: over 50 vehicles have already been commandeered under various circumstances. Upwards of 250 pieces of firearms and tens of thousands of various ammunition were stolen. The local authorities openly encroach on navy men's apartments and criminal elements—on their personal property.

Some servicemen are subjected to moral and psychological pressure. Attempts of making one-sided and illegitimate decisions as regards the Caspian Higher Navy School are reported.

This state of matters is not congruent with the attitude to military structures that is accepted in the civilised world, the Military Council believes. It generates concern and bewilderment among the seamen and, naturally, cannot be tolerated because it destabilises the situation in troops and affects adversely the traditionally good relations between the flotilla's commanders and Azerbaijan's state structures.

The flotilla's personnel insists on the need to evaluate all acts against the flotilla from the point of view of the law and bring those responsible for them to account. "We are convinced that all organisational and technical issues related to the further stay of the flotilla in the Azerbaijan republic will be successfully solved on the basis of political inter-state decisions and the observance of all of the accepted civilised standards and rules. Good traditions, the friendship between the Caspian Fleet seamen and the Azerbaijan people will be unshakable and help overcome difficulties by joint effort," the Military Council concludes.

No Visa Requirement for Latvians, Lithuanians

*OW1906154392 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1348 GMT 19 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The residents of Latvia and Lithuania do not need any visas now to cross the Estonian border as an agreement on non-visa space is in force between the Baltic states, the head of the consular section of the Latvian Foreign Ministry Laura Nezecka told "BF" [BALTFAX]. According to Nezecka, after the introduction of the visa regime in Estonia beginning July 1 foreigners who were permitted to enter one of the Baltic states have the right to travel to the other Baltic states as well.

Several countries in particular, Great Britain, Austria, and a number of states of Eastern Europe expressed their readiness to conclude agreements on bilateral non-visa regime with Latvia. But Nezecka mentioned that an official exchange by the corresponding notes can take place only after the introduction of the Latvian passports.

Norway Signs Agreements With Baltic States

*OW1706191892 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1804 GMT 17 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Norwegian Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lithuanian Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Vytenis Aleskaitis signed in Vilnius Wednesday [17 June] an agreement on free trade and investment protection between the two countries.

Earlier, the Norwegian minister signed the same agreements in Riga and Tallinn.

Television Program Reviews Weekly Events

*LD2206082192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0459 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Text] Moscow, June 22 ITAR-TASS—Yevgeniy Kisilev, the anchorman of the Itogi T.V. programme that reviews weekly events, on Sunday [21 June] described the past seven days as the "most difficult, dramatic and alarming week in the six months since the Itogi T.V. programme went on the air." All three armed conflicts on the territory of the former Soviet Union—between Armenia and Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ossetia, Moldova and the Dniester region—have sharply escalated. In addition, the opposition in Russia has stepped up its activity which, in the view of many, shook the mainstays of constitutional authority in the country. These are the main alarming developments of the past week, Kisilev believes.

"The key issue for South Ossetia is the issue of survival," South Ossetian Prime Minister Oleg Teziyev told the Itogi programme describing the current state of matters

in the Georgian-Ossetian confrontation. In his view, once the Georgian side received a large amount of hardware from the former Soviet Army, the solution of this issue "becomes problematic". He put the blame for the escalation of violence in the region on the Georgian side.

Georgian State Council chief Eduard Shevardnadze, who also appeared in the Itogi programme, evaluated the situation differently. He criticised recent statements by Russian parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov and Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy concerning the situation around South Ossetia and the stance adopted by these Russian leaders, describing such actions as "ill-considered and frivolous." In his view, the Russian leadership's support of South Ossetia was the reason behind the break-up of the negotiating process. Shevardnadze said he "hopes to discuss everything seriously with Boris Yeltsin." He spoke out for preventing a further escalation of violence, pointing out that "common language with Ossetians will be able to be found if others do not interfere."

Speaking in the Itogi programme, Rutskoy noted that his statement concerning the developments in South Ossetia and the Dniester region "cannot be interpreted as a declaration of war on Georgia and Moldova." he emphasised that "upon his return from Canada, Russian President Boris Yeltsin was immediately acquainted with all materials on this problem and voiced approval of the republican leadership's energetic actions."

Although apprehensions regarding the possibility of dragging Russia into armed conflicts on the territory of the former Soviet Union are justified, Rutskoy noted political methods continued to be a real way of resolving conflict situations.

Genuine battles broke out on the streets of the city of Bendery in the Dniester region in the past two days, Itogi points out. However, Moldovan armed units, which forced their way into the city with the aid of armour, failed to gain a foothold in it. Moldovan units were forced to move out of almost all positions in the city. However, Bendery continues to be in the siege and one district on the outskirts of the city is sealed off completely from the rest of the city. Heavy destruction is reported in Bendery, because Moldovan units used artillery on its streets, Itogi said.

The programme cited Yeltsin's statement in conjunction with the situation in Moldova made at the airport upon his arrival from Canada. He denounced violence used against the civilian population and urged Moldovan President Mircha Snegur to end bloodshed immediately, noting that "Russia is strong enough not to remain indifferent" in this situation.

"The Azeri army has launched a massive onslaught almost all along the frontline," Itogi commented on the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh. Simultaneously, the programme pointed out referring to experts' reports that "Armenia is in preparation for a large-scale counter-offensive on the north and south sections of the Karabakh front." The two sovereign states "are on the brink of officially declaring a war on each other," Itogi states. In this regard, Itogi observed that the number of casualties sustained on both sides during the Karabakh conflict has exceeded one thousand people.

"The authorities' inaction or irresponsibility in face of the stepped-up activity by the opposition are glaring," Kisilev pointed out. He described the picketing by supporters of ultra right-wing and ultra left-wing organisations and movements of the building of the Ostankino television studio as "a great provocation". He named the "red-brown detachments" formed in the medium of these movements as "the key threat to parliamentarism, democracy and freedom in Russia."

"This threat of Communo-Fascism has never been as great as now ever since August 1991," the anchorman stressed.

"Following Yeltsin's visit to the U.S. and Canada, our world has become more secure," Itogi commented on the results of the Russian president's visits to the two countries. Yeltsin showed himself as a politician whose ideas are closely intertwined with the way he presents them. The results of his trip are without precedent—about 40 documents were signed in Washington and five—in Canada. Yeltsin managed to win Americans' sympathies, they believed him.

Commenting in brief, at Itogi's request, on the results of the Russian-American summit, Max Kampelman, a renowned American diplomat, lawyer and political scientist, emphasised that he believed "President Yeltsin's visit to the U.S. was an immense success from the point of view of both sides—American and Russian."

International Affairs**Yeltsin Warns Snegur Over Bendery Events****Russia 'Obligated to React'**

*LD2106082392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0802 GMT 21 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Jun—"I am very, very alarmed at the latest events in Bendery, Moldova," Russian President Boris Yeltsin stated today on his return to Moscow after his official visits to the United States and Canada. "I would like, through the media, to warn President Snegur. We, of course, are for resolving issues at the negotiating table, by political means. However, when there are already dozens and dozens of fatalities and when a war is going on, we cannot be indifferent. In the final analysis we are simply obliged to react, to protect people, and to stop the bloodshed. We have the forces for this, and Snegur should know it."

14th Army To Defend Itself

*LD2106092792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0758 GMT 21 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Zharkov]

[Text] Moscow June 21 TASS—The statement issued by the Russian Government has marked the beginning of an important stage in the development of events in the Dniester region and South Ossetia. In the opinion of a high-ranking official from the Russian Ministry of Defence, "the impression is that now we are not being swept by a wave of developments, but are beginning to keep up with them, if not anticipating them."

The latest report received from the press centre of the Russian Ministry of Defence stresses the timeliness and importance of the documents adopted by the Russian Government. On June 20, at 2225, when the working out of the documents was coming to a close, the pontoon-bridge regiment of the 14th Army became the target of an unprovoked attack. Fighting is continuing in the Dniester region. In this situation the government resolution, which instructs servicemen "to take adequate measures, exercising the right to self-defence, for stopping aggressive actions, including fire against the attackers", may play an important role in curbing combat operations.

Now the Army will be able to defend itself, which is absolutely necessary in the current situation. According to the coordinating council of officers' conferences of the CIS Allied Armed Forces, 31 Russian servicemen were killed and 69 wounded during the past five months of this year in the CIS hotbeds of tension.

Dniester Commission Formed

*LD2106175492 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 21 Jun 92*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] With the consent of the Russian Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Russian Government has formed a state commission to assess the situation in the Dniester Republic. The cabinet instructed the commission to report back on the results of its work the day after tomorrow, 23 June. The commission flew to Chisinau today. It is not clear whether it will be able to carry out its mission.

[Begin Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy recording] We begged Ukraine to let a special flight through, but it withheld permission. Therefore, we sent the mission on a Moscow to Chisinau passenger flight. The members of the state commission waited at the airport for 14 hours just so they could hold talks with the Moldovan leadership, but there was no reaction. Russia is working solely for a constructive solution to all problems, including political and ethnic ones, but without bloodshed and without armed struggle. This is all we seek. All the others must remember that we in Russia do not intend to continue tolerating such treatment of the Russian-speaking population and fraternal peoples which form a Commonwealth with Russia. We have already issued an unequivocal statement on this. We said that if just one more shell lands on a military compound or hits a civilian estate, 10 shells will be fired in the opposite direction. [end recording]

[Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian at 1500 GMT on 21 June reports the formation of the Russian Government to evaluate the situation in the Dniester region as follows:

["Russian Transport Minister Vitaliy Yefimov has been appointed the commission's chairman. The commission comprises Vladimir Podoprighora, member of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium; Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin; (Anatoliy Klemenov) of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet headquarters [genshtab]; Nikolay Stolyarov, chairman of the committee for work with personnel of the joint armed forces; Aleksandr Mochaykin, chairman of the Coordinating Council of Officers' Assemblies; and Vasilii Pshenitsyn, officer of the Chief Operational Directorate."]

[Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian at 1600 GMT on 21 June carries the following report on the commission sent to Chisinau:

["Sergey Filatov, deputy chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, has informed journalists that a parliamentary commission that was sent to Chisinau to discuss the problem of the Dniester region is staying in the building of the Russian permanent mission. However, the Moldovan leadership is declining contacts with the

delegation and does not answer telephone calls. The deputy speaker was told this by Vladimir Podoprigora, deputy chairman of the parliamentary committee on interpublic relations, regional politics, and cooperation, who telephoned from Chisinau. In Filatov's opinion, the delegation will most probably stop attempts to get in touch with the Moldovan leaders and will go to the Dniester region. This is reported by IMA-PRESS."]

Government Warned

PM2206152492 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Andrey Ostalskiy article: "Menacing Statements by Moscow Politicians Bring Russia to Brink of War With Georgia and Moldova"]

[Text] Interference in another state's internal affairs is not only a violation of the norms of international law, but almost always a step toward war. This is true quite irrespective of the good intentions by which it may be dictated.

This applies to the 20 June Russian Government statement on South Ossetia, which in effect is of the nature of an ultimatum addressed to the Georgian Government, to Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy's menacing midnight statement on television, and to the remarks by the Russian president, who, on arrival at the airport, could not wait to deliver a sharp warning to Moldovan President Snegur.

However, the difference between politicians and nonpoliticians is that the former can calculate the development of events in their own country and in international relations several moves ahead. What do we expect, for instance, from the Georgians? That they will take fright and refuse to support their own State Council? That, although they believe they are in the right in their conflict with the Ossetians (who, naturally, think differently), they will nonetheless capitulate? I would venture to suggest that the exact opposite will happen there: The Georgians will rally against the common "imperial" enemy, as they—both liberals and conservatives—now see Russia, and the pressure on Tskhinvali will only be intensified.

What kind of foreign policy is it that turns Russia's neighbors into its enemies? The decision to send a commission to Chisinau, uninformed, to "investigate the circumstances" was, for instance, striking. Any sovereign state would see such a move as an insult, although it is true that it would be a good idea to study the facts. However, even if you have carefully followed the development of events in both Moldova and South Ossetia, it is extremely difficult to identify who is right and who is to blame. Obviously, as is usually the case in such circumstances, it is pointless to try to do so; instead, one should make every effort to cool passions through diplomatic means to persuade both sides to hold talks and seek a mutually acceptable compromise.

However, the menacing roar that has been heard in recent days certainly cannot be described as diplomatic means.

It is not open to doubt that the Russian Government cannot be indifferent to the fate of tens of millions of Russians (and Russian speakers) who, to their own surprise, have found themselves cast in the role of foreigners in the republics of the former USSR. However, the matter is first complicated by the failure to resolve the problem of these people's civil status. Are they all automatically citizens of Russia? If not, which of them can claim that status, and on what terms? All these questions require an urgent legal answer, and until it is found, Moscow's actions will appear arbitrary. Second, whatever the circumstances, it must not be forgotten that strong-arm tactics and threats are the worst of all possible means, more likely to further complicate the Russians' position in the republics than to protect their interests.

According to AP, certain citizens of Moldova took Yeltsin's statement threatening to use force as a declaration of war. The meaning of the official permission for the 14th Army to fire "in retaliation" is also clear. This army's prejudice is very well known, and therefore such permission could be seen as the "green light" for it to participate actively in combat operations on one side of the conflict. That will, of course, look like direct participation by Russia in the war.

Something similar is also happening in Ossetia. It is quite likely that Russian troops have indeed been shelled from Georgian positions. This was simply bound to happen sooner or later. (What else did we expect, when these forces found themselves at the very heart of a military confrontation.) Russian helicopters have already fired, albeit in retaliation, on Georgian positions—that fact has been officially admitted. Think about it: Russian troops are fighting Georgian troops on Georgian territory and could at any moment begin (if they have not already begun) to fight Moldovan troops on Moldovan territory! Both countries, that being so, have every right to describe what is happening as aggression and to appeal for help not only to the United Nations and the CSCE, but also to third countries. There need be no doubt that Romania, for instance, will rush to Chisinau's assistance, and then the might of our 14th Army, which currently appears so decisively superior to the still feeble Moldovan armed forces, will no longer seem so. At that point, it will be necessary to protect the 14th Army, and....

You want to pinch yourself: Is it all a bad dream? Can we really be preparing to make war?

It is well known that it is much easier to start a war than to stop it. As soon as there are mutual scores in blood, atrocities against civilians, and so forth (and all this is absolutely inevitable in any war), the carnage can become uncontrollable and politicians then become impotent. What use then for us to dream of wide

international aid! In any case, it goes without saying that a state at war has no time for reforms or democracy. Such a country needs a very different kind of government. The red brownshirts will deal far more successfully with the tasks of "national war." Indeed, they never stop telling us so.

Has our government considered these options, or did it act in haste, under the emotional pressure of the moment, in response to the latest news? I don't know. However, I do think that someone, running things from behind the scenes, has obviously considered it all.

Deputies Report on Trip To North, South Ossetias

Memorandum Addressed to Khasbulatov

LD1806181592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0953 GMT 18 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—The Georgian authorities are pursuing the policy of pressurising the non-Georgian population into leaving South Ossetia, seeking to solve this way problems associated with the existence of this republic. This contention is contained in a memorandum addressed to Ruslan Khasbulatov and written by a group of Russian deputies who explored the situation in North and South Ossetias last week.

People's Deputies Sergey Yushenkov, Viktor Yermakov and Sergey Mikhalkov, the authors of the memorandum, point out that South Ossetian militants "are out to exploit the disastrous position of refugees to seize weapons and kindle anti-Russian sentiments."

They propose that the Russian Security Council define Russia's policy in the Caucasus as soon as possible. The all-important thing is not to allow hostilities on Russia's southern borders to escalate, the deputies believe.

Status of South Ossetia Noted

OW1806155192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1411 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A group of RF [Russian Federation] deputies that visited South Ossetia recently has suggested that the Security Council meet as soon as possible to work out Russia's position of principle toward the Caucasus. A memorandum from lawmakers to the Parliament's Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov notes that a policy in the Caucasus "should be based on efforts to prevent military actions in that region from spreading". The memorandum authors stress that "an elimination of South Ossetia could be the direct cause of a war in North Caucasus".

Members of Parliament charged South Ossetian extremists, led by the Prime Minister Teziyev, with a desire to use the refugees' plight for seizing weapons and fanning up antirussian feelings in North Ossetia. As a result of these actions, the situation in the region has grown much worse over the last few weeks.

Meanwhile, legislators believe that "the Georgian leadership is pursuing a policy toward evicting all those who are not Georgians from South Ossetia". Because of this, the South Ossetian administration sees unification with RF as the only the way out of the situation. The memorandum authors stressed the need for warning Georgia "about Russia's intention to fulfil its duty to defend the South Ossetians" up to a favourable response to its request to join RF, if the Georgian side declines to stand by its commitments.

Disagreement on Khasbulatov Stance

LD1906134992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1640 GMT 18 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—Russian Parliamentary Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov's recent statement on South Ossetia has provoked a controversial reaction among Russian deputies.

The parliamentary factions "Radical Democrats" and "Democratic Russia", as well as the organising committee of the "Coalition of Reforms" have adopted a joint statement stressing that Khasbulatov's statement should not be viewed as the official position of the whole parliament. They disagreed with the speaker's attempt to hold Georgia responsible for the conflict, and said that both Georgian and Ossetian "extremist forces" are responsible for the escalation of the conflict.

The statement urged the world community to help stop the bloodshed in Tskhinval and called on the Russian Government "to take resolute measures to ensure a peaceful settlement in South Ossetia in accordance with the agreement reached in Kazbegi."

Nikolay Pavlov, one of the leaders of the opposition block "Russian Unity" supported Khasbulatov, but said his statement came too late and offered only half-measures.

Georgians Protest Khasbulatov's Statement

LD2306095892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0804 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Gvritishvili]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jun—Representatives of a Georgian national group in Moscow picketed the Russian White House today carrying slogans of "Hands off Georgia" and "End the interference in the republic's internal affairs." The picketing was carried out as a sign of

protest against the recent statements about South Ossetia by Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Russia, and Aleksandr Rutskoy, vice president of Russia, which were assessed in Georgia as an encroachment upon the republic's sovereignty.

The Georgian national group is planning to organize pickets at the White House once again tomorrow to coincide with the forthcoming meeting in Dagomys between Boris Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze.

Shevardnadze Makes 'Accusation'; Leaders React

Rutskoy Denies Accusation

LD1906203192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1920 GMT 19 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS military observer Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 19 Jun—"At long last Shevardnadze has admitted that the genocide and annihilation of the Ossetian people is being carried out not by bands beyond the control of the Georgian State Council, but by sub-units of the National Guard." This was how Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy commented on today's statement by Eduard Shevardnadze in an interview with an ITAR-TASS observer. The chairman of the Georgian State Council made the accusation that Russian armed forces were openly participating in the conflict. "What makes me indignant is that instead of preventing the physical annihilation of perfectly innocent people of Ossetian nationality, someone of world standing begins a row, and then appeals to the United Nations, the CSCE and other bodies," Aleksandr Rutskoy said. At the same time, he added, according to the information at my disposal, during the conflict in the region approximately 1,000 Ossetians have been killed and more than 1,800 wounded, while 115 Ossetian villages have been destroyed.

The vice president then commented on Shevardnadze's statement that detachments of the Georgian National Guard had been fired on by Russian military helicopters. In actual fact, Aleksandr Rutskoy said, two Russian military helicopters fired warning shots at several tanks that had been shelling Tskhinval. The order to open fire on the tanks was given by Colonel General Georgiy Kondratyev, Russia's deputy minister of defense, who was visiting the positions of the Tskhinval Engineer Regiment in order to familiarize himself with the situation. He issued this order after a Georgian shell exploded on the unit's positions, the vice president said. The rockets fired by the helicopters exploded 50-80 metres from the tanks and damaged them, Rutskoy stressed. The tanks were forced to stop shelling the town.

He described the claims in the statement that detachments of the Russian armed forces had attacked the positions of Georgian national guardsmen as fabrications.

Defense Ministry Denies Accusation

LD1906215992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 2120 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, 19 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—Russia's Defense Ministry has categorically denied Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze's accusation that Russia has carried out aggression against that Republic. It has also denied that Russian troops fired on Georgian villages.

In connection with the statement made by the leadership of the Georgian State Council, which accused Russia's armed forces of "aggression against the Republic of Georgia," the press center of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry has made a special announcement:

"At 1600 on 18 June, in response to tank fire against the military settlement of the Russian troops in Tskhinvali, retaliatory warning fire was opened by two Russian Air Force helicopters belonging to the 292d helicopter regiment stationed in the region," says the announcement. After the warning shots from the helicopters, the shelling of the town by the tanks ceased. Judging by the statement of the leadership of the Georgian State Council, the tank unit was part of the Georgian National Guard."

The press center of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry declares that "the Russian Air Force helicopters did not fire on any Georgian villages. Reports of a concentration of Russian troops on the Russian-Georgian border and an advance by armed formations with use of armored carriers are untrue."

Filatov Denies Accusation

OW2006163092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1613 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Deputy-Chairman of the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet Sergey Filatov finds that Eduard Shevardnadze's appeal of June 19 is based on "falsifications". "To us", he went on, "that statement by the Chairman of Georgia's State Council was completely unexpected". Sergey Filatov said so in an exclusive interview with INTERFAX special correspondent Vyacheslav Terekhov.

In reality, things in South Ossetia "were quite different from the way they are represented by Eduard Shevardnadze. The region was really visited by Russia's new Deputy Defence Minister General Kondratyev who came to inspect the Transcaucasian and North-Caucasian military districts. The leadership of Georgia including its Defence Minister had been notified of the visit. More, the two defence ministers had a personal meeting, said Filatov. The Russian side asked for a cease-fire while the defence delegation was in Tskhinval. There was a cease-fire—for 10 or 15 minutes. But upon Russia's Deputy Minister's departure, the Georgian side deliberately opened fire, including that from tanks' guns,

on Russia's armed forces deployed there, namely the helicopter and engineer regiments. After that, two helicopters took off and fired warning flares, and the Georgian guards' tanks retired", explained Filatov.

"It should be noted", he continued, "that in his statement Eduard Shevardnadze openly admits that on Georgia's side there were actions by the national guard, that is regular troops. Prior to that the Georgian leadership maintained that regular troops took no part in the armed conflict in South Ossetia. It's highly regrettable that such a prominent leader as Eduard Shevardnadze made an appeal to the world community which was based on falsified facts".

Further on Filatov Remarks

LD2206134592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1305 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS—"Everything that is happening in South Ossetia and the Dniester region comes from the leadership of Georgia and Moldova," Sergey Filatov, first deputy chief of the Russian Parliament, said at a meeting with representatives of news agencies today.

Commenting on the Russian Government's statements, Filatov noted "it is the first time that the Georgian leadership has admitted that the national guard is operating in South Ossetia rather than various uncontrollable groups. These are government troops and they are controlled certainly from Tbilisi."

Filatov said the Georgian Government's actions constitute "an organized genocide against the Ossetian people who are wanted to be driven out of their ancestral lands."

"We were duty bound to react so as to defend our troop units and military equipment on South Ossetia's territory and the families of servicemen. The decision was made to return the fire once they are attacked," Filatov stressed.

Filatov said "Eduard Shevardnadze's statement is at odds with many facts. We do not have any imperial ways of which the Georgian leadership accuses us. We want only one thing: To see peace on our land."

Filatov informed journalists about the recent reports monitored from South Ossetia. "We have learned that Georgia transferred fire to villages. The methodical extermination of the rural population is under way," he said. "This is close to fascism if not fascism itself," he stressed.

Filatov added: "the people of South Ossetia need to be saved and nobody gives us the right to treat calmly what is happening. Correspondingly, our troop units with their families also need to be saved."

More on Comments

LD2206215992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 2000 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Russia will not allow force to be used in resolving either the Dniester region conflict or the South Ossetian conflict, Sergey Filatov, deputy chairman of the Russian parliament, said at a press conference held on 22 June in Moscow. He noted that it is the Georgian National Guard, guided from Tbilisi, that is operating in South Ossetia, and not uncontrolled formations. Filatov expressed the opinion that the people of South Ossetia should be rescued, as well as the Russian military formations and families of servicemen.

Correspondents Protest Ossetian 'Genocide'

LD2006114192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1659 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow Jun 19 TASS—A cable addressed to chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet Ruslan Khasbulatov demands public recognition of manifestations of Fascism in the Republic of Georgia and help stop genocide of the Ossetian people.

The cable was sent by correspondents from various Russian and foreign press services and publications, who are outraged by the fact the information they get "under bullets and shells of the Georgian guard" can be subjected "to distrust and ostracism" because of discrediting of the correspondent profession by "representatives of some news agencies, including Georgian correspondent of the Ostankino TV company Nana Gongadze".

Their "specific materials are a 'propaganda of Fascism'" and are incompatible with the correspondent profession, says the cable.

Rutskoy Postpones Vladikavkaz Trip

OW2206121192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1136 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As an IF [INTERFAX] correspondent has learned that Russia's vice president Aleksandr Rutskoy has postponed his trip to Vladikavkaz, scheduled for Monday, June 22nd because of his busy schedule. In the meantime he has been continuing to control at Mr. Yeltsin's instruction developments in South Ossetia and Dniester in the wake of increased tension there.

6 weeks ago, President Yeltsin instructed Mr. Rutskoy to coordinate RF [Russian Federation] policy in conflict situations, affecting the interests of Russia in CIS countries. A group of Russia's journalists flew off to Vladikavkaz on Mr. Rutskoy's initiative to familiarize itself with the situation in North and South Ossetias.

Leaves for North Ossetia

LD2206114792 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service
in English 1100 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Excerpt] The Russian vice-premier, Aleksandr Rutskoy, has left for North Ossetia, a republic in the south of Russia, where thousands of refugees from South Ossetia, making a part of Georgia, are seeking refuge. [passage omitted]

Georgian Gas Supplies 'Terminated in Full'

OW2206121792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1136 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The supply of gas to Georgia has been terminated in full again. Russia closed the gas pipe line section going through Dagestan on Sunday [21 June]. By this section, gas reached Georgia via Azerbaijan. This has been reported for IF [INTERFAX] by the Director of the Industrial Association "Gruztransgaz" Carlo Nikolaishvili.

Tbilisi and Baku have agreed to ship gas to Georgia across Azerbaijan after North Ossetia declared an economic blockade of Georgia a month ago and closed the gas pipe line there.

Mr. Nikolaishvili cited evidence from Moscow that the delivery of gas to Georgia had been terminated at the Vice President Rutskoy's instruction.

Objections Made to Georgia's UN Membership

LD2306092492 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 0800 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] In an interview with the BBC, Eduard Shevardnadze said that Ossetia is returning to normality and the threat of a full-scale civil war has, to a large extent, been lifted. However, on the eve of Shevardnadze's meeting with Yeltsin in Dagomys and quadripartite talks there on the situation in South Ossetia, relations with Georgia might nonetheless further deteriorate.

On 22 June, the UN Security Council postponed consideration of Georgia's application for UN membership because of Russian objections. Observers note that this is the first time that Russia has objected to any of the former Soviet republic joining the organization. Being one of the five permanent Security Council members, Russia can use its veto.

South Ossetian Gives Moscow News Conference

OW1906081992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0745 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At a press conference in Moscow Thursday [18 June], the leader of the Popular Front of South Ossetia

Alan Chochiyev said that South Ossetia and other republics of the former Soviet Union have the right to claim a portion of the weapons of the former Soviet army.

Chochiyev, who is also the Deputy Chairman of the South Ossetian Parliament, said that in light of the worsening situation direct talks between Georgia and South Ossetia are extremely complicated since the discord between these peoples is "practically genocidal". Reconciliation of the two peoples is probably not possible "in the next two generations", he said.

Chochiyev said that there are "strong anti-Russian sentiments and extremely negative attitudes toward the Russian government" in South Ossetia. "We were always devoted to Russia, but she has forgotten this", he said, having indicated that the recent statements by the Speaker of the Russian Parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov on South Ossetia are the end "of the Russia's first approach to the Ossetian problem".

Describing the role of the Chairman of the Georgian State Council Eduard Shevardnadze in the Georgian-Ossetian conflict, Chochiyev said that he "is playing the role of an international democratic ornament used by certain forces in Georgia to cover up the genocide of the Ossetian people".

A member of the group of independent experts Soltan Dzarasov familiarized journalists at the press conference with the plan to end the South Ossetian conflict. The plan was developed by the Ossetians. Russian military subdivisions must separate the conflicting sides, set a demarcation line, and determine the disposition of the Georgians and Ossetians. The expert said the complete normalization of Georgian-Ossetian relations is possible only if "the natural desire of the mountain people to join the two Ossetias" is considered.

Official on Russians' Plight in S. Ossetia

PM2306103192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 23 Jun 92 First Edition p 1

["Point of View" article by S. Stankevich, Russian Federation state counselor for political questions: "The Great Power Phenomenon"]

[Text] A short while ago IZVESTIYA published an article asserting that an incorrect impression of events in Moldova and the Dniester Region is being deliberately created in Russia. It was claimed that misguided Moscow is arguing with democrats in Chisinau in vain and is getting involved in other people's affairs, while civilized diplomats from the four states are likely to settle the matter peacefully at any moment. My own name was mentioned among those who are supposedly undermining the civilized peace efforts.

Think of the awe-inspiring tragedy of the last few days alone—blood running along the streets of half-ruined Bendery, preliminary estimates speaking of more than 200 dead, more than 300 wounded, and at least 600

homeless families, and plants—including a renowned furniture factory—razed to the ground.... What references to sublime issues of sovereignty will be used by the professional hypocrites to explain this barbarism now? Alas, reality is nowadays quicker than politicians and journalists in replying to newspaper articles....

Unfortunately, an increasingly greater proportion of the blame for what is happening is being pinned on the Russian side and our excessively accommodating [chrezmerno ulybchivaya] foreign policy. I hope that the latest events in Moldova will dispel any dangerous illusions nurtured even by the most hopeless champions of "drawing room diplomacy." The stock of accommodating smiles seems to have been exhausted (unless some old stock from Shevardnadze's times is still lurking somewhere inside the Russian Foreign Ministry). The policy of demonstrative impotence and of endless (and countless!) ritual conversations around tables of varying degree of roundness is experiencing one obvious failure after another. Russia today needs, more than ever before, people who are capable of comprehending, formulating, and upholding its genuine interests.

I cannot and do not intend to conceal my **own opinion** as a Russian citizen: The time has come to stop the organizers of the cruel mass slaughter in the Dniester Region, using all available means of self-defense. The Russian 14th Army must immediately protect the innocent civilians from gangster-like attacks and, if necessary, it must be given direct support from Russia.

Why are events in Moldova's Dniester Region so important for Russia and what is Russia seeking hundreds of kilometers away from its own borders?

The answer is simple: It needs clear guarantees of quiet life and equal rights for the population that is its spiritual and historical kith and kin. However, the answer is also tragically complex because all the fateful problems of building sovereign states in the post-Soviet republics are concentrated in the long-suffering strip of land along the Dniester.

All the sovereign republics which emerged in the USSR's place are multinational by composition. Each one of them is implementing the natural and previously suppressed striving for national self-determination and self-assertion. It would seem necessary to immediately give free reign to the revival of national languages and original cultures by more actively supporting those who have suffered the most, and to put emphasis on equal fellowship and concert between ethnic groups, applying joint efforts to consolidate the state and emerge as a united—albeit multilingual and multicultural—people.

Alas, the post-Soviet republics are being drawn in a completely different direction by ill fate and, more frequently, by the ill will of politicians. It all begins when the republics' populations get divided into indigenous

and nonindigenous, in other words latecomers and second-rate citizens. The term "nonindigenous" is also applied to people who have lived for centuries on the land God gave them.

Legal privileges for the indigenous population and discriminatory restrictions against "latecomers" are enshrined in laws. In actual fact this means establishing a dominant and domineering ethnic group which is gradually privatizing the state. It means the emergence of an /ethnocratic/ regime banking on assimilating or squeezing out the "nonindigenous" population.

This brings into play the irreversible logic of social conflict: Growing contradictions make the regime harsher. Extremist forces, striving to squeeze out the former elite and come to power on the crest of a wave of outright and blatant national fascism, are activated within the ruling ethnic group. On the other hand, there is growing resistance by suppressed ethnic communities. The ruling postcommunist elite, squeezed between opposite forces and incapable of really running the state in such complex conditions, initially maneuvers and later on, step by step, yields its positions to extremists in the naive and vain hope of self-preservation. The ethnocratic regime switches to repressions, it gets tougher and arms itself. The conflicts become open and violent. All sides seek and find outside support.

What happens next? This is the point when the curtain of common sense should descend and put a halt to insanity. However, so far none of those who have taken this path has halted of his own accord. Therefore, the future can hold only one thing: Exchange of fire and graves, bitter tears and further exchanges of fire.

Moldova is the first of the former socialist republics to have traversed this path almost to the end.

Despite our traditional abundance of party banners, not a single **genuinely patriotic** force has emerged there to this day to halt the flood of lies and violence and take upon itself the protection of common **state** interests rather than of ethnocratic interests.

Judging by everything, the Chisinau rulers have finally driven themselves into an artificial blind alley of their own making. The only hope now is that the sense of self-preservation will be awakened among the Moldovan people themselves.

Unfortunately, no lessons are learned from other people's examples. Ethnocratic insanity is spreading to more and more territories.

Who will halt the genocide in South Ossetia? Where are you, democrat Shevardnadze who, just over a year ago, shocked the world with your warning about a repressive dictatorship threatening our country? Why is it that now you lack both the strength to halt the goons who are storming Ossetian homes and the determination to honestly and openly take a stance? Why is the famous, inimitable, and sophisticated Georgian intelligentsia

keeping stubbornly silent, as if to give its blessing to the escalation of barbarism and brutalization?

The ethnocentric blind alley emerges not only in combination with southern temperaments. The laws of apartheid are being introduced in Latvia and Estonia with direct encouragement by Western leaders blinded by who knows what. Where are you, former passionate fighters for democracy from the "people's fronts?" Why do you look away? Why are you prattling pitiful justifications and timidly pandering to ignorant and primitive statements by narrow-minded national paranoiacs? Could it be that you paved the way for them with your "chanting" and other suchlike revolutions? Do you realize the price that will have to be paid for today's timidity, for the trade-off of principles for the sake of a seat of honor at the victors' banquet? Look at the Dniester Region. Think of Ossetia.

More than 25 million of our historical and spiritual kith and kin are now living outside Russia's borders, in newly emerged sovereign states. Russia is responsible for their fate. It will not allow anyone to humiliate and maltreat them or discriminate against them. Let alone murder them.

This is why we are concerned about Moldova and the Dniester Region. A regime which kills people simply because they strive to uphold their human dignity cannot bank on sovereignty. Russia will halt the killers since there is nobody else left to do it.

I can imagine the public hysteria, the pompous words about sovereignty, the empty threats, the hypocritical appeals to the international community, the primitive lies about "Russian imperialism," and the public abuse that will be generated by such words and such actions. I can imagine it all, but nonetheless I stand firmly by what I say.

Your excellencies! You must realize that this is very serious. Henceforth, when dealing with Russia, you will have to deal not with an empire in ruins but with a Great Power. The Russian Great Power has a history going back thousands of years, it has legitimate deep-rooted interests and long-standing serious traditions of protecting these interests. Please be kind enough to bear this in mind. Then we will be friends without fail.

Patriarch Appeals for Peace Settlement in Ossetia

LD2306120492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0500 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow Patriarch Aleksiy II of all Russia said in an interview with ITAR-TASS that it is necessary to settle the Dniester conflict peacefully. The most important for all of us now is tolerance towards each other and a peaceful solution for all problems, he said. The patriarch admitted that it is always difficult for him to talk about this crisis because his flock lives both in the Dniester region and in Moldova. Aleksiy II also appealed to Christian Georgia and South Ossetia to stop the

bloodshed. We must have Christian love for each other and overcome the intolerance that exists between us, said the patriarch.

Russian, Ukrainian Delegations Hold Meetings

Yeltsin Previews Dagomys Talks

LD2206213492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 2050 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Lyudmila Aleksandrova, Yuriy Sizov, and Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Sochi, 23 Jun—Russian President Boris Yeltsin arrived in Sochi on the evening of 22 June. Arriving with him were Ruslan Khasbulatov, Chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet; Yegor Gaydar, acting premier of the government; Gennadiy Burbulis, State Secretary under the President; Pavel Grachev, Russian Defense Minister; Andrey Kozyrev, Foreign Minister; and other members of the delegation.

On 23 June summit talks between the Russian and Ukrainian delegations will take place at Dagomys, Boris Yeltsin told journalists at the airport, and on 24 June talks will be held between the leaders of Russia and Georgia, as well as the chairmen of the parliaments of North and South Ossetia.

The talks with Ukraine, in which the presidents, parliamentary chairmen, heads of government and foreign and defense ministers of the two countries will take part, will, according to the Russian Federation president, be intensive and far from easy. Fourteen issues have preliminarily been scheduled for discussion, including the situation in the Dniester region, economic ties, new currency, borders, the Crimea, and the Black Sea fleet. "The talks will not be easy, but I hope we shall manage to find a compromise, perhaps a temporary solution, so as to stabilize the situation, so that it is not said in our country that there is almost war between Ukraine and Russia. Russia will not permit this", the president declared.

Boris Yeltsin announced that on 22 June he telephoned Eduard Shevardnadze and agreed with him to hold quadripartite talks on the Ossetian problem in Dagomys on [24 June]. The Russian President stressed that blood is being shed in South Ossetia, hundreds of people are dying, every day up to 5,000 refugees are leaving South Ossetia. We shall try to resolve this problem politically, by way of negotiations. War is impermissible. We are obliged to find a solution to this issue, the president stressed.

Boris Yeltsin told journalists that there are no plans for him to meet with Moldovan President Mircea Snegur. "It is, however, planned to take effective measures," the Russian president added.

Boris Yeltsin also said that he will take part on 25 June in the signing in Istanbul of an economic agreement between the heads of the Black Sea states.

Replying to a question as to whether he plans to give reports in parliament on his visits to the United States and Canada and his talks with the leaders of Ukraine and Georgia, Boris Yeltsin said that detailed information will be presented to the Supreme Soviet which "will reveal the clauses of those treaties and agreements of which there is a dual interpretation, even amongst people's deputies".

Documents Noted

OW2306113692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1030 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The meeting in Dagomys is expected to approve a number of documents, specifically:

In defence—on concerted military-technical actions and the settlement of financial and economic questions related to the withdrawal of former Soviet troops from Germany to the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Byelorussia,

In economy—on monetary and credit relations and mutual commitments in connection with the introduction of the Ukrainian currency, an agreement on mutual settlements and common principles and the mechanism of accounting and servicing the domestic debt of the former USSR. On paying the foreign debt and the internal foreign currency debt and the division of the assets of the former USSR.

It is also suggested to approve an agreement on the overseas property of the former USSR on forms of cooperation in foreign policy representation (embassies), on the transportation of oil and natural gas and the utilization of pipelines.

Yeltsin Arrives, Comments

LD2206193192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Interview with Russian President Boris Yeltsin by unidentified journalist at Sochi airport on 22 June; from the "Novosti" newscast—recorded]

[Text] We have just received a report on Boris Yeltsin's arrival in Sochi to take part in the Russian-Ukrainian talks.

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] I would like to say that for all of us the next three days will be very busy. Tomorrow the Ukrainian delegation will hold talks—summit talks, as they say—on various aspects, especially on hot spots. I would not like—and I think my colleagues will agree with me—to anticipate anything now, since naturally the

talks will not be simple. I think that we still will manage to find some compromises or perhaps temporary decisions aimed at stabilizing the situation, so that we do not have shouts as if a war has nearly broken out between Ukraine and Russia. This is impermissible. Russia will not let this happen.

I agreed with Shevardnadze today that quadripartite talks on the problem of South and North Ossetia and on the Russian-Georgian problem will be held the day after tomorrow. That is why Shevardnadze and his delegation, and the leadership of North and South Ossetia, are to fly to Dagomys. The day after tomorrow we will embark on talks on the conflict in South Ossetia.

[Unidentified correspondent] Boris Nikolayevich, will you have a meeting with Snegur in the near future?

[Yeltsin] No, but measures are to be taken.

[Correspondent] What kind of measures?

[Yeltsin] We are currently discussing these measures.

[Correspondent] Are they effective measures?

[Yeltsin] That is right, they are effective measures.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

[Yeltsin] Thank you. [end recording]

Talks Begin

LD2306084992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0759 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Lyudmila Aleksandrova, Gennadiy Talalayev, and Yuriy Sizov]

[Text] Dagomys (South Russia), 23 Jun—Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation, and Leonid Kravchuk, president of Ukraine, have held their first hour-long conversation. This was reported by Vyacheslav Kostikov, the Russian president's press secretary. The presidents were then joined by the parliamentary chairmen and heads of governments.

Vyacheslav Kostikov told journalists that in the words of Boris Yeltsin, the talks are proceeding in a friendly, constructive atmosphere. The desire to reach compromises is felt from both sides. Agreement in principle has been reached on the preparation of a wide-ranging military political treaty between the Russian Federation and Ukraine. The issue of the Crimea will not be discussed during the meeting.

Crimea Issue Viewed

OW2306112392 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1030 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At their meeting in Dagomys the presidents of Russia and Ukraine have decided to drop the disputed

issue of the Crimea from the agenda. The understanding was reached during the private conversation of Boris Yeltsin and Leonid Kravchuk which opened the summit talks in the Black sea town on Tuesday [23 June]. It was decided that questions related to the Black Sea Fleet should be discussed "calmly, without emotions".

Later the talks were joined by delegations.

The next round of private talks of the two presidents is due at 15:00 Moscow time.

In Dagomys Russia will work for a full-scale political agreement with Ukraine which is the main purpose of the meeting. A mechanism for continuing such negotiations should be set up. The Russian side also intends to raise the issue of expanding cooperation with Ukraine in the framework of the CIS and intensifying joint efforts to settle conflicts in the Commonwealth.

The second set of issues President Yeltsin is to discuss with his Ukrainian counterpart is related to defence. The Russian delegation wants to hear details of Kiev's approach to nuclear weapons and the status of strategic forces in Ukrainian territory, the time of signing the nuclear non-proliferation treaty as well as the principles of settling the problem of the Black Sea Fleet.

In the sphere of economy and finance Russia will try to agree with Ukraine on dividing the non-cash rouble turnover and settle questions related to the coming introduction of the Ukrainian currency so that the move would not damage the monetary situation in Russia.

The fourth set of questions is legal. The Russian delegation would want to approve a list of treaties and agreements on which the two sides should work in the first place. In the opinion of Russia the legal basis of bilateral relations should be expanded.

Answering a question from IF [INTERFAX] the acting Russian Prime-Minister Yegor Gaydar said that the introduction of a Ukrainian currency is one of the most complicated and important issues for Russia. "We fully understand Ukraine's determination to have its own currency and preliminary understandings have been readied on the issue at government level, he said. We are convinced that like in the case of Estonia we can settle the matter in a civilized way to mutual advantage."

As for the fleet and defence problems, in Gaydar's opinion, "as few expensive steps in defence should be made as possible".

After meeting the Chairman of the Georgian State Council Eduard Shevardnadze as well as the leaders of the parliaments of North and South Ossetia in Dagomys on Wednesday [23 June] the Russian president will leave for Istanbul to sign an economic agreement of Black Sea countries.

Upon return from Turkey within three days the government will submit a detailed written report to the Russian parliament about the latest negotiations with the USA,

Ukraine and Georgia. President Yeltsin will speak when documents will be ratified in parliament.

Customs Check Points Agreed Upon

LD2306142992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1408 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Russia and Ukraine will have no border guards at the frontiers, but will introduce customs checkpoints, the presidents of the two countries agreed on Tuesday [23 June] during their meeting in the Black Sea resort of Dagomys.

Russian First Deputy Parliamentary Speaker Yuriy Yarov told TASS Boris Yeltsin and Leonid Kravchuk also agreed to promote interparliamentary cooperation at the level of committees and commissions in order to coordinate legislative activity.

Yarov, who is heading the Russian delegation at talks on the disputed Black Sea Fleet, said a compromise is possible on the issue. "We have come to an understanding with head of the Ukrainian delegation Vasily Durdinets that the Fleet cannot be divided", he added.

If a corresponding agreement is reached at the top political level, "we shall have to solve the simplest task: To define how Russia and Ukraine will participate in managing the Black Sea Fleet", Yarov said.

Quadrilateral Meeting on Dniester Set

LD2306140692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1348 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Dagomys June 23 TASS—A quadrilateral meeting on the situation in the Dniester region will take place in Istanbul on June 25, Russian President Boris Yeltsin told journalists here on Tuesday [23 June]. Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Romania will take part in the meeting. Yeltsin, who is now at the Russian-Ukrainian summit in the Black Sea health resort of Dagomys, said. Heads of Black Sea countries are scheduled to arrive in Istanbul on June 25 to sign a treaty on cooperation.

Kozyrev Comments

LD2306095792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0930 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Lyudmila Aleksandrova Yuriy Sizov, Gennadiy Tatalayev]

[Text] Sochi June 23 TASS—An agreement on economic ecological and other forms of cooperation is to be signed during the meeting of heads of state and government of Black Sea countries in Istanbul on June 25, Russian

Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told ITAR-TASS. Russian President Boris Yeltsin will participate in the Istanbul meeting.

"Russia's participation in the summit shows again that Russia wishes to have outlets for cooperation not only in the American direction, but also in other directions". "Russia will not be walled in, will not be forced out of warm seas. Quite the contrary, it will use new trading routes. New Russia gives attention also to the southerly direction of its foreign policy, also Black Sea".

'Progress' Made on 'Sharing' Fleet

*AU2306135892 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT
23 Jun 92*

[Text] Dagomys, Russia, June 23 (AFP)—Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Ukrainian leader Leonid Kravchuk made progress here Tuesday [23 June] on sharing the former Soviet Black Sea fleet, one of the most explosive issues dividing the two republics, a senior Ukrainian official said.

"The meeting between Yeltsin and Kravchuk is going astonishingly well, they have found new approaches to sharing the Black Sea fleet," said Ivan Plyusch, speaker of the Ukrainian parliament.

He would not provide further details of the possible agreement.

Ukraine has decreed its control over former Soviet strategic forces based on its territory, which would include at least in part the Crimea-headquartered Black Sea fleet.

Yeltsin has demanded that the fleet remain under control of the joint military command of the Commonwealth of Independent States, to which both Ukraine and Russia belong.

Central Bank Says Ukrainian Bank Insolvent

*OW1906181492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1434 GMT 19 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's Central Bank has entered Russia's parliament with a proposal of declaring insolvent several central banks of other CIS members including Ukraine's Central Bank.

The reason is the breach of agreements for coordinating the monetary and credit policies in the rouble zone. With many billions' debt to Russia's Bank its Ukrainian counterpart has decided to issue credits to Ukrainian enterprises to the sum of 300 bn [billion] roubles. That money will be used to settle accounts with Russian partners thus dealing a heavy inflationary blow to Russia's economy.

Together with declaring the Ukrainian Bank insolvent Russia's parliament, insists the Central Bank, should set strict limits on supplies for Ukraine from Russia.

Khasbulatov Denies Serbian Intervention Threats

*LD1806121292 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1058 GMT 18 Jun 92*

[Text] Moscow 8 (TANJUG) [dateline as received]—The president of the Supreme Soviet of Russia, Ruslan Khasbulatov, on Thursday [18 June] denied the media reports according to which he threatened the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia with a military intervention during his last week's visit to Saudi Arabia.

The denial followed a joint session of the two houses of the Russian Parliament on Thursday [18 June], i.e. the opposition's demands that Khasbulatov explain his position on the issue of military intervention against Serbia.

Media had quoted Khasbulatov as saying in Jeddah on June 10 that "Russia will no doubt support the sending of troops there (Serbia). We have no doubts at all when the protection of justice is in question, regardless of the good relations with Serbia in the past."

"Ever since the U.N. Security Council vote, I have urged the sending of military contingents on a peace-keeping mission," Khasbulatov said in parliament, and specified that he did not mention military intervention. "That is what I think, and what the papers write is quite something else," he said.

The Russian Parliament did not open a debate on the Russian Federation's policy towards the conflict in Yugoslavia on Thursday [18 June].

Observers believe that the debate has been left for when Russian President Boris Yeltsin returns from the United States.

The Russian Parliament's foreign relations committee was the last to take a stand on Yugoslavia, when it described the U.N. sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as a premature and inadequate move.

Sanctions Against Serbia Said 'Hasty'

*OW1806171992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1637 GMT 18 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The members of the Russian Parliament Friday [19 June] will receive the resolution passed by the parliamentary committee on international affairs and foreign economic relations on the results of closed hearings on Moscow's decision to join the UN sanctions against Serbia, the chairman of the committee Yevgeniy Ambartsumov said in an exclusive interview with IF [INTERFAX]. He said that in a vote of 7 to 5 the committee members called Russia's decision hasty.

Ambartsumov said that the Parliament must determine whether to consider the matter at its session or agree with the assessment by the committee. He said that he voted for declaring the decision premature for the following reasons:

- Firstly, as the report by the UN General Secretary states, all conflicting sides are responsible for the events in former Yugoslavia, not only Serbia, and "there is no concrete evidence that the government of Serbia will assume full responsibility for the situation";
- Secondly, "the sanctions against Iraq where there is blatant aggression and the sanctions against Serbia where there is an ethnic conflict cannot be equal";
- Thirdly, "Russia should consider its traditional friendship with the people of former Yugoslavia".

The leader of the parliamentary committee accused the Russian Foreign Ministry of "prematurely adopting primordial American formulas". Ambartsumov feels that Russia could have abstained in the UN vote as did China, "which was not in any way criticized by the world community".

Prompt Recognition of Macedonia Urged

OW1906174892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1329 GMT 19 Jun 92

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" (DP) feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia stems from the necessity to recognize Macedonia as soon as possible, a Russian diplomat specializing in Russia's relations with the republics of former Yugoslavia told DP [Diplomatic Panorama].

He also described as paradoxical the situation whereby in the center of Europe there is a state which nobody has recognized. The Russian foreign minister's visit to Skopje was a demonstration of intent to recognize Macedonia. That was the first visit of a foreign state's official to that state.

Every efforts should be made to prevent tensions in the hitherto stable Macedonia, said the Russian diplomat. The recognition of Macedonia may prevent a crisis, he said.

Russia would like to synchronize the recognition of Macedonia with the European community's corresponding decisions. The European Community, meanwhile, is delaying the solution of this problem because Greece insists that only its historical province can have such a name.

The Russian diplomat expressed hope that the problem of Macedonia's recognition will be solved during the EC summit to be held at the end of June.

Speaking about Russia's relations with Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), he said that such relations are maintained de-facto. "All other members of the world community have assumed the same position in relation to former Yugoslavia," he continued. The only exception is the U.S. which has refused to recognize it. But even the U.S. embassy remains in Belgrade.

According to a reached agreement, Russia's Consulate General in Zagreb will be reorganized into an embassy, he said. Russia will also open its embassy in Ljubljana. It has not been decided yet who will head the embassy—an ambassador or a charge d'affairs.

DP note: Russia recognized Slovenia on February 14 and established diplomatic relations with it on May 25. On the same day, it established diplomatic relations with Croatia which it recognized on February 17. On April 27, Russia recognized Bosnia and Hercegovina but has not established diplomatic relations with it because of the events in that country.

Estonian, Russian Bank Officials Continue Talks

OW1806151392 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1258 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Eesti Bank's vice president Galina Litvinova was continuing talks in Moscow Thursday [18 June] with representatives of the Russian Central Bank and Russia's State Property Control Committee.

Ms Litvinova said in an interview for BALTFAX that the sides had already reached agreement on almost all the issues relating to the mutual accountancy procedures between the two countries following the introduction Estonian national currency on June 20.

President Siim Kallas of Eesti Bank is expected to arrive in Moscow June 19 or 22 to sign the agreements.

Cooperation Agreements Signed

LD2106150192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1616 GMT 19 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Sugak]

[Text] Moscow June 19 TASS—An agreement on trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation between the governments of the City of Moscow and the Republic of Estonia was signed here today. Trade Minister Andres Tamm signed for Estonia and First Vice Premier Konstantin Buravlev for Moscow.

Buravlev told ITAR-TASS Moscow acted upon authorization from the Russian Government as an independent partner. The agreement covers an extensive range of activities in the Russian capital and Estonian Republic.

As far as trade is concerned, Moscow's enterprises expressed themselves ready to supply machine tools,

machinery and devices for barter against Estonian meat products, vegetables and consumer goods.

Both sides intend to open their representation offices to handle the exchanges and cooperation. Buravlev stressed that the implementation of the agreement would begin directly after signing.

Economic Agreements Signed

*OW2006170392 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1613 GMT 20 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] June 20 in Moscow the Estonian Prime Minister Tiit Vahi and the Russian Vice-Premier Aleksandr Shokhin signed intergovernmental agreements "On Mutual Obligations Due to the Introduction of National Currency in Estonia" and "On Principles of Calculations for Mutual Deliveries of Goods and Some Types of Payments".

The President of Bank of Estonia Siim Kallas and the chairman of the administration on the Russian Central Bank Georgiy Matyukhin signed a "Protocol on Mutual Obligations Between the Central Bank of Russia and Bank of Estonia in Accordance With the Signing of the Intergovernmental Agreements".

After the procedure of signing the Estonian Premier in his interview with "BF" [BALTFAX—as received] noted that the signed agreements are connected with Estonia's leaving the rouble zone. According to Vahi, the parties agreed to liquidate all debts which exist between the both states.

In his interview with "BF" the Russian Vice-Premier Aleksandr Shokhin declared that the signed documents have double significance. Firstly, they register the move to a civilized level of bilateral relations, in particular, in the sphere of monetary circulation due to the introduction of its own currency by Estonia. Secondly, the Russian Vice Premier believes that this agreement will be used as an example for relations between the CIS states which want to introduce their own currencies.

"Speaking on the problems left behind today's ceremonial day", Shokhin continued, "we must say that they are connected with the withdrawal of the Russian forces from Estonia". He reminded on Tallinn's demand on urgent withdrawal of forces and on the absence of technical, financial opportunities to indulge the Estonian request in Russia.

At the same time Shokhin expressed his hope that a success in reaching agreements on many contradicting issues in the sphere of financial-monetary circulation and mutual deliveries can help to solve other problems.

The Vice Premier assured that the introduction of its own currency by Estonia will have no negative consequences for Russian economy.

According to Shokhin, the uncorrelated monetary policy of the former USSR states makes more troubles.

"We are very interested to secure the monetary fund of Russia from credit expansion of independent states. It means that we must reach an agreement by a civilized way: either on introduction in CIS states and other states of the former USSR their own currencies or to conclude an agreement on tougher rules in the rouble zone which envisage a more tough policy and position of the Central Bank of Russia", noted Shokhin. Otherwise Russia will be forced to urgently introduce its own national currency at least in without cash circulation.

Servicemen's Wages in Kroons

*LD2206223492 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1830 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Text] Russian servicemen in Estonia are to receive their wages in Estonian kroons from now on. This is the result of the monetary reform taking place in the republic. A RIA correspondent learned that Estonia is to grant Russia a technical credit worth 50 million kroons for the needs of the army in exchange for 50 million rubles. Payment of military pensions will proceed according to the same scheme. However, we shall have to wait and see what comes of the kroon.

Weapons Shipment Still Impounded in Estonia

*PM1906091392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
17 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 7*

[Report by Anton Zverev and Leonid Levitskiy: "Estonia Confiscates 15,000 Pistols From Izhevsk"]

[Text] The "Baykal" foreign trade firm based at the Izhevsk Machine Plant has sold to the British firm Kenford [name as transliterated] Enterprises Ltd 15,000 pistols, described in the accompanying documents as sporting weapons. However, according to the Estonian customs department, which detained the freight car carrying the weapons at the port, the articles that were being sold abroad are in all respects, Makarov military pistols. The customs officers detained them as contraband freight. IZVESTIYA gave a detailed account of this unpleasant incident at an Estonian seaport in the article "Conflict in the Port of Tallinn: Incident or Annoying Misunderstanding?" (No 57).

What happened after that? A government commission was quickly set up to investigate the "Makarovs case" in Estonia. However, there has been nothing at all in the press about the commission's conclusions.

At the same time, as expected, the case was passed on to the Tallinn city court. It did not examine the customs department's weapons smuggling charge against the Izhevsk Machine Plant leadership, reckoning that the old legislation on this score is no longer acceptable (new legislation is on the way). At the same time, having looked at the documents supplied by the Izhevsk people, the court did not consider that the actions of the

"accused" represented an administrative offense. (Remember that in an IZVESTIYA interview Izhevsk Machine Plant director Vasily Chugayevskiy confirmed with documents that the IZh-70 export model pistols shipped to the British actually did come under the heading of sporting guns. Moreover, according to the certificate issued by the Russian Main Public Order Administration, they were freely exportable without prior notification). The outcome was that on 27 April the court ruled that the weapons be returned to their legal owner—the Izhevsk plant.

However, the court ruling remains a paper ruling. Moreover, in a recent interview for the paper MOLODEZH ESTONII, M. Yurgens, general director of the Tallinn customs department, actually said that soon after the court proceedings the entire cargo of impounded weapons was confiscated by the Estonian police. According to him, it was done on the grounds of a "special Estonian government resolution." Clearly, that is in fact the case, because it is highly unlikely that the director of the customs department would dare cause an interstate conflict off his own bat.

Add to that the fact that the protest note sent the other day (for the second time) by the Russian Foreign Ministry to the government of the Republic of Estonia warns of the "grave consequences that a failure to implement the Tallinn city court's ruling could have for the development of trade and economic relations between the two states."

Finally, as Anatoliy Prikolotto, director of the "Baykal" foreign trade firm, said in a telephone conversation, the Izhevsk plant administration firmly believes that the enterprise's interests will be duly protected by the Russian authorities and the "criminal" cargo will ultimately get to the purchaser. Only this time, it seems, by circumventing the Estonian border....

Federation Affairs

Yeltsin Urges Tatarstan To Take 'Civilized Path'

OW1906172892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1701 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Boris Yeltsin has forwarded his greetings to the World Tatar Congress opening in Kazan on Friday [19 June].

The address accentuates the noble goals of the forum "seeking to promote the Tatars' cultural and ethnic consolidation, and strengthen their national conscience".

This forum, the address reads, vividly reflects profound democratic transformations in the relations between the republics and peoples who had long lived under the

conditions of a unitary state. These process, however, should not lead to a self-isolation of any republics, nor sever the historical and social ties among the peoples of Russia.

Boris Yeltsin is hopeful that Tatarstan will follow a civilized path on its part on the way to sovereignty and this congress will contribute to the solution of all-Tatar problems, international peace in the Republic of Tatarstan and Russian Federation.

Shakhray on Government Bill, Yeltsin Future

PM2206105592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
19 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Sergey Chugayev report on interview with Russian Federation People's Deputy Sergey Shakhray, member of the parliamentary Committee for Legislation, by ITAR-TASS, INTERFAX, and IZVESTIYA correspondents; place and date not given: "A Real Threat to Legitimate Power, But There Is Still a Chance To Avert Catastrophe"—first two paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] The last-minute cancellation of the scheduled parliamentary hearings into the draft law on government and the announcement that the document has been withdrawn for further work have elicited abundant suggestions by observers as to the causes for this incident. Speculations have been fueled by the fact that this extremely important document which, in the opinion of the majority of observers, was to have summed up the outcome of the confrontation between the supreme legislative and executive powers in Russia, was submitted to parliament by the president and was withdrawn while the president was abroad.

A little later we managed to receive from trustworthy sources information that the draft law was withdrawn on B. Yeltsin's initiative. However, even after this announcement, the situation regarding the draft law on the Russian Government has not become much clearer. Russian Federation People's Deputy Sergey Shakhray, one of the main authors of the first version of the draft law and member of the parliamentary Committee for Legislation, agreed to comment on this situation especially for the correspondents of ITAR-TASS, INTERFAX, and IZVESTIYA.

[IZVESTIYA] By whom was the draft law withdrawn, and why?

[Shakhray] I cannot answer the question "By whom was it withdrawn?" I am not even sure that it has been withdrawn. Most likely, in Ye. Gaydar's absence, there was a request to parliament from First Vice Premier V. Shumeyko for the date of its examination to be deferred. Because the president has not appointed another official presenter of the draft law apart from Ye. Gaydar. You understand that canceling the hearings is quite different from deferring them.

As for the authorship, I want to stress that I am not associated with the version which was sent to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, and I will speak categorically against it when it is examined in session. The authors of the text that has been presented are most likely the leaders of the government apparatus. Evidently the specific executors are A. Golovkov and a number of jurists from the former Union Council of Ministers Legal Department. Their approach to the draft law is fairly sophisticated and, in its own way, competent. The formulas of the draft which I prepared for the congress are superficially preserved, but the sense of the document has been completely altered by several barely noticeable amendments. I will cite just a few of the fundamental positions which I will be opposing.

First, this law, if it were adopted, would lead to the diffusion of executive power in its higher echelons. Two potentially rival centers would emerge—the president and his apparatus, and the government. This situation would ultimately lead either to the president being weakened and turned into a figurehead, or to the government being weakened and becoming unconditionally subordinate to the president. But the main point is that if the president and government were to fight amongst themselves, both the state and the economy would be ruined for sure once and for all.

Second, I will oppose this version of the draft law because it allocates such a key role to the government apparatus that the role of ministries as functional organs of the state administration would once again be reduced to zero, as was the case in USSR governments, which were controlled by the Politburo. Bear in mind that according to the draft law the candidacy of the leader of the government apparatus is in effect to be determined only by the prime minister; the leader of the apparatus is to be confirmed by the president, and furthermore he must belong to the government collegium. Essentially you get a figure who is more important than a minister. The structure of the apparatus and its staff will be confirmed personally by the prime minister.

I would even say that in this form the draft law leaves the president exposed. Because the draft law submitted by the president at the congress is doomed to fail in the Supreme Soviet anyway. But in this form it is doomed to a cynical failure, because it violates a number of articles of the Constitution, and this will enable the opposition also to accuse the president of disregarding the Basic Law. Thus overall my conclusion is: The draft law is unacceptable. And I think that when the president returns, what we talked about at the beginning of the conversation will possibly take place—the official withdrawal of the draft law.

[IZVESTIYA] As far as we know, the draft law has not elicited approval in parliament.

[Shakhray] No, but, unfortunately, for directly opposite reasons. The parliamentary committees and commissions examining the draft law are dissatisfied primarily

with the fact that the draft law does not specify the clear subordination of the government to the Supreme Soviet and the congress. However, there is not a single article in the Constitution which could become the basis of such a demand. And, naturally, the president's right to appoint and dismiss ministers is still interpreted as extraordinary powers. But this is the president's constitutional right. The president is obliged by the Constitution to agree only one candidacy with parliament—that of the prime minister.

[IZVESTIYA] The Soviet of Nationalities has already cast doubt on the constitutionality of Ye. Gaydar's appointment as acting government chairman....

[Shakhray] Today, I stress, the post of Russian prime minister is vacant. The president, in heading the government, was not combining two posts. He led the government on the basis of Article 121 of the Constitution. Gaydar's appointment, in the first place, does not contradict any constitutional prohibition. Second, after the appointment of two first vice premiers, this step can be viewed as simply a redistribution of duties within the government leadership. For the appointment of a prime minister, the president will address—and, if I am not mistaken, he has such an address already prepared—to the Supreme Soviet, requesting its consent to Ye. Gaydar's appointment. Thus the appointment of a premier and squabbles in parliament over this question are still ahead.

[IZVESTIYA] How great is the likelihood that parliament will confirm Gaydar's candidacy?

[Shakhray] I still think that if the president were to propose Gaydar's candidacy for the post of premier at the congress, it would be supported by an absolute majority of deputies. The chances for support in the Supreme Soviet are significantly lower. I think that, in their hearts, about 70 percent of members of parliament are against agreeing to Gaydar's appointment as premier. But the political situation today is such that most likely 50.8 percent of parliamentarians will agree with the president's proposal to appoint Gaydar. Even those who will not accept Gaydar and his concept of reform will vote for him so that afterwards there will be somebody on whom to pin the blame for this stage of reform.

[IZVESTIYA] How is your cautious optimism to be squared with the statement which you made a few days ago to REUTER that B. Yeltsin's political career could end within a few months?

[Shakhray] Unfortunately, our newspapers carried only this part of my interview with the agency. The conversation was about certain forecast scenarios for the development of events. Only one of them presumes the possibility of Yeltsin being removed from power. The main theme of the conversation was what should be done to prevent this. I propose a package of measures which, in my view, would enable such a development of events to be avoided. I hope that after the president's return I will have a working meeting with him, during which I

will be able to acquaint him with this plan. If B. Yeltsin accepts it, I am sure that the results of attempts to seize the president's power will be kept to a minimum. I think that before 1 December we still have a chance to preserve the legally elected organs of power and preserve the reforms.

[IZVESTIYA] In what form might attempts to remove the president from power be undertaken?

[Shakhray] They could be superficially constitutional, involving parliament, the congress, and a number of other organs. I think that, unless decisive measures are taken, such a form could be used before the end of the year. But a nonconstitutional transfer of power is also possible.

[IZVESTIYA] Along the lines of the scenario played out a few days ago in Ostankino? Do you believe that these events herald attempts to seize power by unconstitutional means?

[Shakhray] I believe that these events show primarily that we have a deficit of power. No democratic state permits the legally elected organs of power to be mocked as much as our country. Parliament keeps silent, the president keeps silent, the government keeps silent, Moscow's law-enforcement organs and its huge militia garrison keep silent. Any failure by the organs of power to react to calls for the authorities to be overthrown by force—and not just calls, but actions containing the constituent elements of a crime—could lead to the intensification of extremism.

But, in my view, events like those which occurred in Ostankino will only be the background to a possible transition of power at the end of the year. They do not present a real threat to the state.

[IZVESTIYA] Where does the real threat come from?

[Shakhray] It comes from the situation. And people will be found. But I hope that this is not the only possible alternative of the development of events. At the moment there are, I repeat, realistic and good chances of avoiding it. And I will try to do everything to make sure that these chances are utilized.

Gaydar Cited on Prices, Government Changes

LD2206174292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0900 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] The price of oil and other fuels in Russia must reach world levels over two years. This was stated in an interview published today in YOMIURI SHIMBUN by Yegor Gaydar, acting chairman of the Russian Government, who together with President Yeltsin was on a visit to Washington. According to Gaydar the cabinet is planning to implement full liberalization of fuel prices within this timeframe.

Touching on the recent changes in the Russian Government, Yegor Gaydar noted that they were caused by the

changing tasks in the process of conducting economic transformations. This, he stressed, is by no means a departure from the reforms. Answering a question on the results of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's trip to the United States, Gaydar stated that the treaties in the sphere of reducing arms are directly connected to the large-scale conversion of the defense industry. In his opinion this possibility must be used to conduct the structural restructuring of the Russian economy, which until now was completely dependent on the military industrial complex, ITAR-TASS reports.

Rutskoy Assures Security Chiefs of Support

LD2206202192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1650 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow, 22 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—Without ensuring the necessary public order one cannot count on the successful implementation of economic reforms, the building of a law-governed state, and the revival of Russia. This was noted at today's meeting between Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy and the heads of a number of services and units of the Moscow State Directorate of Internal Affairs.

As the Public Relations Center of the Russian MVD reported, a decision was passed at the meeting to speed up work by the Russian government on a package of documents on additional measures for the legal protection of employees of Internal Affairs bodies and on increasing the activeness of operations by the militia and the internal troops in emergency situations.

At the same time it was noted that even now the militia has adequate forces and means to lawfully take resolute actions and ensure the necessary law and order.

It was also stated that all legal actions by the militia would be fully backed by the government and the Russian Supreme Soviet, and therefore it is its supreme duty to effectively do its duty in the fight against crime.

At the meeting special emphasis was placed on the need to ensure the necessary public order during unauthorized mass events, to decisively curtail various anticonstitutional actions and appeals aimed at fanning inter-ethnic discord, and at the overthrow of the existing system by violence.

Shumeyko, Rutskoy Map Out Industrial Strategy

LD2206165592 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] First Deputy Prime Minister Shumeyko has disclosed that the government intends to allocate 500 billion rubles to enterprises which are threatened with bankruptcy. A decree transforming all state enterprises into joint stock companies is being prepared. According to Vice President Rutskoy, a decision has been taken to establish a group which will be responsible for the

day-to-day management of vitally important industries. This is the only way to solve the political and economic crisis in the country, he added.

Khasbulatov Says Yeltsin Decrees 'Worst of All'

OW2206220392 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1924 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the 23 June "Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Monday [22 June], Russian Khasbulatov, head of Russia's parliament, called the economic decrees signed recently by President Boris Yeltsin "the worst of all decrees."

According to Khasbulatov, the recent presidential decree on bankruptcy "was not approved by the committees in the Supreme Soviet, nor by the appropriate departments nor even by the Ministry for the Economy." The decree on bankruptcy, which has not yet gone into effect and calls for the liquidation and sale of unprofitable state enterprises, was signed by Yeltsin about a week ago. Earlier the Russian parliament had postponed considering a similar law on bankruptcy for an unspecified amount of time.

Opposition Against Decrees on Sale of Land

OW1906180792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1433 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The parliamentary parties in opposition—RUSSIA, AGRARIAN UNION, MOTHERLAND, CIVIL SOCIETY, and WORKERS' UNION—have signed a joint statement on presidential decrees on the sale of land. The statement goes that "the President's decrees of March 25 and June 14 permitting the sale of land in privatizing state-owned and municipal enterprises by physical or juridical persons including foreigners and those without any citizenship are unconstitutional and so null and void from the moment of their adoption".

The statement maintains that under Clause 121-8 of the Russian Federation's Constitution if a presidential decree contradicts the Constitution or any other law the latter have precedence.

Chubays Discusses Taxation, Agriculture Needs

LD2206184492 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1500 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] The two-day stay in Altay Krai by the Russian vice premier and chairman of Russia's State Committee for the Management of State Property ended today. The aim of his trip was to study in practice the progress of privatization in a major region of Russia in order to work out further tactics and introduce the necessary correctives in carrying out reforms. Anatoliy Chubays

held a news conference on the results of the trip. Regarding taxation policy he noted that the government is not prepared to lower taxes now. Replying to questions about the patent discrepancy between the prices for energy carriers and agricultural output, the vice premier said: Sooner or later Russia will have to reach a normal level of prices for energy-carriers. But it would be madness to do this straight off in the course of one or two weeks. What is needed here is a consistent program. As far as agriculture is concerned, the vice premier said, measures have been taken now to provide it with credits on favorable terms.

Nechayev Says Reform Plan To Be Confirmed

LD2206183992 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Russian Economic Minister Andrey Nechayev believes that if the Russian economic policy receives the support of the leaders of the G-7 at the meeting in Munich, then the Russian position at the talks with the IMF on credits will considerably improve. Nechayev noted that the Russian delegation in Munich intends not only to confirm the chosen policy of economic reform but also to introduce a number of interesting proposals. According to the minister, the Russian delegation will propose a program for drawing foreign investment into the country.

No Plans To Offset Enterprise Debts Seen

OW2206225092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1925 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the 23 June "Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian Economic Minister Andrey Nechayev has announced that the Russian government does not intend to offset debts between Russian enterprises. According to ministry data, the total amount of indebtedness between enterprises has reached 2 trillion rubles. In an interview with INTERFAX, Mr. Nechayev declared that the government has no intention of taking such a step even though the idea "is finding more and more support in parliament."

The Minister also asserted that after the liberalization of prices on most raw materials and manufactured goods, the majority of enterprises set unjustifiably high prices on products which remained, however, of the same low quality.

Mr. Nechayev remarked that it would moreover be impossible to carry out an offsetting of debts without creating more credit. He admitted that the Russian government had already undertaken an additional credit emission from which enterprises would soon receive roughly 500 bn [billion] rubles "to be used exclusively for increasing production."

Army Paper Claims Factions 'Have Been Warned'

PM2206191792 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 23 Jun 92 p 1

[Article by Captain Second Class O. Odnokolenko:
"Russia Cannot Be Indifferent to Blood Flowing on Its
Borders"]

[Text] By a bitter irony it was on the eve of 22 June that the bloody Moloch of interethnic conflicts reared up again with an energy increased tenfold. No sorrier analogy can be imagined. It seemed as though those who sent the tanks into Bendery and launched rocket and artillery fire against Tskhinvali and against Armenian and Azerbaijani villages had chosen the time specially. As was the case 51 years ago, blood is being shed on the territory of the now-defunct Union. This is happening on Russia's very borders, and many Russians are among the casualties. And these are not just servicemen temporarily stationed in our nearest neighbors' countries, but women and children: People who even by the wildest stretch of the imagination could not pose a threat to the sovereignty of the young independent states or infringe on the power of parvenu presidents and chairmen.

However, the attitude to be adopted toward the Russian-speaking population in a number of parts of the former USSR is a subject in itself. In this instance we are talking about something more important: The observance of human rights as the supreme value. It probably would be superfluous to mention how the new leaders have sworn to be faithful to common human ideals while implementing the right to national self-determination and the right to national statehood. Unfortunately, it is obvious already that a bloodless division has not been achieved. By an irony of fate it is those who have most accused Russia of hypothetically striving to resolve differences from a position of strength who themselves have been using tanks and howitzers for arguments.

The curtain has been raised, as they say...It transpires that with one hand Moldovan President Mircea Snegur sent a delegation to peace talks, while with the other he was cobbling together an armored strike force ready to be let loose surreptitiously on the streets of Bendery at the right moment. And there is no longer any doubt that Eduard Shevardnadze is a cunning politician. It has been learned that the chairman of the Georgian Supreme Council was well aware that the people fighting in South Ossetia were not Zviadists, but National Guards under his jurisdiction. However, it is not so strange that "tried and tested party fighters" should, if need be, join the camp of nationalist reaction; it is a sort of characteristic of the nomenklatura that it is prepared to do a deal with the devil in order to preserve its own power. However, their confidence that Russia and the Russian Army will turn a blind eye to genocide conducted on a state basis as part of state policy goes beyond all bounds.

Truly, the Russian Government is infinitely patient! God alone knows what it has cost Russian soldiers not to

respond to provocative attacks, vilification, and humiliation. Recent events have shown that there is a limit to everything, and indeed that limit has been painfully reached [vystradan]. Nonetheless, Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, speaking on television on the evening of 20 June [v noch na 21 yunya], made a fairly tough statement to the effect that Russia would continue to give preference to peaceful political means of resolving conflicts and differences, and expressed a readiness to continue dialogue. We must assume that the leaders of the warring factions simply have no other choice. They have been warned: Russia will not permit a forcible solution to the Dniester and South Ossetia problems.

Grachev on Military Tasks, Officer Pay

924C1738A Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY
in Russian No 22-23, Jun 92 p 5

[Interview with General of the Army P. Grachev, minister of defense of the Russian Federation, by ARGUMENTY I FAKTY correspondent V. Perushkin: "A Position of Strength Is Better than a Position of Weakness"]

[Text] The position of the Russian Army, both in the Russian Federation and on the territories of the sovereign republics where individual subunits are deployed, resembles a fifth wheel of a wagon that is falling apart while in motion. On the one hand it impedes everything, and on the other, everyone has a faint hope that maybe if it suddenly gets the urge, it will help.

It is this unenviable condition of the Russian Army, and many of its other problems, that was the subject of our correspondent V. Perushkin's interview with General of the Army P. Grachev, who was recently appointed to the post of minister of defense.

[Perushkin] Your wife said at one time that you always appear where there is a smell of scorching. Well, is this smell already starting to get strong in Russia?

[Grachev] Do you not smell the odor of powder smoke in the many places that units of the Armed Forces of Russia are deployed? Take the Dniester region and the Transcaucasus. Reports from these regions have been indistinguishable from combat situation reports for a long time now. Moreover, the Army is trying within all its powers to maintain neutrality, although it is becoming more and more difficult to do this.

[Perushkin] At a recent news conference you declared that you will protect Russians from any oppression on the entire territory of the CIS. In what way will this protection be expressed?

[Grachev] By the will of history Russian people live and work on the entire territory of the former Union. They are not guilty of anything before the other people who populate the independent states that were formed in place of the USSR, and they have the same rights to life,

freedom, and work. I consider it intolerably insulting to tag them with the label "occupiers." I am convinced that an adequate reaction on the part of Russia is necessary in the event that their human rights are infringed, and especially if there is an attempt on their life. The Russian Army must be a reliable guarantor of the freedom and independence of the citizens of our state.

[Perushkin] But a position of strength led at one time to the events in the Baltic region, Georgia, and Azerbaijan, and, finally, remember the Yugoslav variant....

[Grachev] In principle I am an opponent of violence, although I do not think that a position of weakness is better than a position of strength. We must never permit illegal armed formations to attack military units and subunits and kill soldiers, officers, and members of their families with impunity. We are against involving the Army in interethnic conflicts, but anyone who makes an attempt on the life of a Russian soldier should know that he will be given a harsh rebuff.

[Perushkin] Does this mean that point five [statement of nationality in passport] will again start to "matter," let us say, in service promotions in the Russian Army? Will persons with the last names, for example, Petrusenko, Ziguya, Tugayev, and Zherinovich now be able to become generals?

[Grachev] I do not see any obstacles for representatives of any of the nations and nationalities that populate Russia. What is more, we will promote the revival of the great historical Russian tradition when Hannibal—"the blackamoor of Peter the Great"—and Barclay de Tolly, and Bagration... served in the ranks of its army faithfully and truthfully.

[Perushkin] Well, but who is our potential enemy now?

[Grachev] The times of the bad memory of the "cold war" have long since passed. Russia has no enemies; however, it is a little early to say that military danger has disappeared forever. Therefore, we need a strong, mobile, and modern army.

[Perushkin] You said in one interview that the Russian Army has to start from zero. Does this imply personnel rearrangements, resolution of social protection of the military, or a new direction in foreign policy?

[Grachev] This was said in the sense that the creation of the Russian Army will require reorganization in literally all spheres, beginning with military doctrine and ending with the attributes of a soldier. To support operational tasks, a new type of troops is being created—quick reaction troops. New approaches will also be implemented, naturally, in those spheres you are talking about—acquisition of personnel for the troops and naval forces, social protection of servicemen... We will gradually shift to the contract principle of bringing troops up to strength.

[Perushkin] What will be the pay for officers at the junior, senior, and higher levels?

[Grachev] In accordance with the decree of the Government of the Russian Federation, a lieutenant—commander of a platoon—will receive 3,900 rubles [R], starting 1 June, and R5,200, starting 1 August; a captain—commander of a company—R5,200 and R6,900. A lieutenant colonel—commander of a regiment—R7,400 and R9,800; the sum of monetary allowances of a general—commander of a division—will be R8,900 in June, and in August it will amount to R12,000 a month.

[Perushkin] Incidentally, should it be understood that the question of a general's privileges is already settled?

[Grachev] Where "privileges" mean abuse of position, it is necessary to say outright that they are abuses. But we will not draw in the general corps here to no purpose. Everything must be done on a legal basis for everyone.

Defense Ministry Agrees To Sell Weapons Abroad

LD2206211492 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1900 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Russia's Defense Ministry has already prepared contracts for the sale of weapons and military equipment to 15 countries. Included in these countries are South Africa, Pakistan, Taiwan, and others. The Defense Ministry is counting on making about 9 billion rubles from these deals in 1992 to 1994.

Proceeds From Military Sales To Aid Servicemen

LD1806094592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1200 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] The proceeds from sales of military property and equipment will be used for the needs of servicemen and to help Army and Navy veterans. This is stated in instructions from the Russian Government. These funds will become the basis for construction of housing for servicemen, for development of private farms of former servicemen, and for education and retraining. ITAR-TASS was told this by Konstantin Lazarev, assistant to the chairman of the committee for social provisions for servicemen under the Russian Defense Ministry.

Lottery Set Up To Fund Servicemen Housing

PM1806105192 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 0735 GMT 14 Jun 92

[From the "ATY BATY" program]

[Text] The first six months of this year are already nearly over—that was the period of time that the Russian president gave the local authorities to eliminate the backlog of accommodation for servicemen. Unfortunately, it is now clear that this will not be done. Servicemen without apartments—and there are almost 200,000 of them—are now pinning their greatest hopes on their construction workers. But even here there is a whole bunch of problems. The disastrous shortage of

personnel, the high cost of materials and equipment, and poor financing are holding construction back. This is one of the construction sites. [video shows deserted, disorganized site] In order to resolve the housing problem, Russian servicemen have to get involved in nontraditional ways of finding the necessary resources. Thus, in order to complete the construction of this block of 224 apartments in Balashikha, near Moscow, the management of the fund for assistance to young servicemen and their families has decided to organize the "Energiya" commercial charitable system—a kind of lottery, with money and goods as prizes. Anyone who wants to invest money in the good cause of helping those without apartments can participate in this. But if Russia needs a reliable army and defenders loyal to it, this means that everything must be done to ensure that the president's decree is fulfilled. [video shows construction site, unfinished building]

Order on Chemical Weapon Destruction Reviewed
PM2206114492 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 20 Jun 92 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report under the rubric "The Government Has Resolved": "For the Destroyers of Chemical Weapons"]

[Text] By a presidential directive, priority measures have been laid down for the fulfillment of Russia's international commitments in the sphere of the destruction of chemical weapon stockpiles.

The presidential Committee for Convention Problems of Chemical and Biological Weapons is charged with the organizational responsibility. The committee is instructed within two months to draw up and, by agreement with local organs of power, submit to the government proposals for the phased creation of a system of facilities for the destruction of chemical weapon stockpiles. Here provision must be made for measures to ensure the social protection of personnel, the comprehensive development of the social infrastructure, and the improvement of material and social provisions for the population.

This includes establishing privileges and advantages as regards working conditions, remuneration, and pension provision for workers engaged in the destruction of weapons. Individual houses and health camps for children are to be built in a 15-km zone around the facilities. Diagnostic centers are to be set up at medical institutions serving workers at the facilities. Ecological monitoring systems and information points are to be set up in all inhabited localities in the zones. Compulsory state personal insurance and insurance of citizens' property is to be organized.

Further on Interior Ministry Crime Briefing
LD2106050392 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1220 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpts] A briefing took place today at the Russian Interior Ministry on the work of the criminal investigation bodies in investigating crimes against the person—that is, against all of us. Our correspondent Anatoliy Fedorov reports.

[Begin Fedorov recording] [passage omitted] Since the start of the year, there have been 8,300 murders and over 20,000 cases of aggravated assault. The criminal activities of gangs are now a fact of life in which conflicts frequently arise either over spheres of influence between gangs or within gangs over leadership and profits. This year there have been major clashes between gangs involving shootings in Moscow, Moscow Oblast; Sverdlovsk, Kemerovo, and Tyumen Oblasts; Stavropol Kray; Mordovia, and many other regions.

There is particular alarm over the increasing number of victims of sex crimes. As a rule, such crimes are of a serial nature and the victims are usually women or children. News of such murders generate panic-ridden rumors among the population. For example, in Rostov Oblast, following in the footsteps of the murderer Chikati, who took 53 lives but has now been rendered harmless, a new sexual maniac has appeared who has already raped and murdered eight victims. [passage omitted]

'Whole Spectrum' of Politics Met at Lubyanka
PM2306095392 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 18 Jun 92 p 3

[Report by Major S. Knyazkov: "Seeking Answers at the Lubyanka: Political Parties' Representatives at Russian Security Ministry"]

[Text] Recently the Russian Security Ministry opened its doors to various parties and social organizations. A meeting was held there at which senior officials of the Russian Security Ministry described what the special services represent today. When inviting people to the meeting, Andrey Chernenko, chief of the ministry's public relations center, stated, we did not select any particular "hue" from the political spectrum. Indeed, sitting next to Yuriy Chernichenko, Gleb Yakunin, and Vitaliy Urazhtsev were Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, Aleksandr Vladislavlev, and representatives of the officers' community, the soldiers' mothers' movement, the cossacks, and the Communist Party.

Questions were answered not only by Andrey Chernenko but also by Major General Andrey Bykov, deputy minister, Lieutenant General Vladimir Bondarenko, representative of the minister's administration, Major General Gennadiy Kovalenko, chief of the Main Directorate for Combating Terrorism, and others.

As Major General Bykov said, the Russian Security Ministry was formed on the basis of structures of the Russian Federal Security Agency and the former USSR Interpublic Security Service. The ministry's structure was formed with a view to resolving Russian security questions, first and foremost the protection of the individual, society, and the state. This led to a considerable reduction in the administrative apparatus. Around 400 general officer posts have been scrapped in the Russian Security Ministry system. After the removal of a number of new departments from the former state security organs system and the reduction in numerical strength of former USSR KGB subunits, the total number of staffers has fallen from 513,000 to 137,900.

The fundamental distinguishing feature of the newly created ministry is that it has been completely removed from the influence of all political and ideological institutions and the political investigation structures which existed in the USSR KGB have been abolished. Foreign intelligence, the government communications system, government protection, and a number of paramilitary structures have been separated out as independent state institutions. At one time that was also true of the border troops, but the complex situation regarding Russia's borders made it necessary to revert to the time-tested position whereby border troops were an integral part of the security organs....

Then questions were asked.

Are files being kept on political leaders, are they being kept under surveillance, and are their phones being tapped? In view of the present laws on operational investigation work, all measures of this kind can only be conducted with the approval of the Russian General Prosecutor and only then if the actions of a given individual represent a threat to matters which fall within the competence of security organs. In the four months of its existence the Russian Security Ministry has not kept any political parties under surveillance.

Are there cadres from the former KGB working in the new security organs? Yes, there are: A whole host of leading workers from the USSR security organs have been dismissed, but the majority of ordinary operational staffers are continuing to serve in them. After all, it takes 5-7 years to train a high-quality senior officer....

What does a citizen do if he suspects that "competent" organs are conducting operations with regard to him? Complain to the court!

In two and a half hours several dozen Russian politicians were able to discuss questions relating to the work of intelligence agents, the struggle against internal and international terrorism, and much else. The meeting passed without mutual recriminations but nevertheless, when Vladimir Zhirinovskiy began speaking in his customarily overvigorous style, the democrats in the hall left. Admittedly, Zhirinovskiy himself noted that no

other single organization could have assembled the whole spectrum of political parties and movements in the same hall.

Leaders Together for 'First Time'

*PM2206122592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 18 Jun 92 First Edition p 2*

[Vladimir Murashkin report under the "In Parties and Movements" rubric: "Meeting With Chekists"]

[Text] A meeting was held in the Ministry of Security between the leadership of the Russian Federation Ministry of Security and the leaders of political parties and social movements. A total of 56 organizations registered with the Ministry of Justice received invitations to attend. The entire political spectrum of our society assembled in the former hall of the KGB Collegium. The diversity of political views and opinions was also apparent in the attitudes toward the Ministry of Security itself. Thus Conservative Party Chairman L. Ubozhko called the Ministry of Security a criminal organization, whereas Liberal Democrat Party leader V. Zhirinovskiy believes that the Ministry of Security's role as a stabilizing factor should grow in the present period of state collapse.

In addition to written questions submitted in advance by the party leaders, there were also plenty of oral questions which were answered by Deputy Minister A. Bykov; Head of Administration V. Bondarenko; and the following Directorate chiefs: K. Ippolitov of the Analysis Directorate; G. Kovalenko of the Directorate for the Struggle Against Terrorism; A. Krayushkin of the Archive Directorate; and Yu. Demin of the Legal Backup Directorate. Much of the time was spent on traditional questions about the existence of files on specific people, the bugging of their telephone conversations, and so forth.

In conclusion L. Lyamar, chairwoman of the "Soldier's Mothers" Movement, thanked the organizers for having brought the leaders of all parties and movements together for the first time. There had been attempts before, but only the Ministry of Security had managed to do this. She lamented the absence of similar meetings with the Russian Government; after all, a dialogue between the authorities and the parties would help to reduce social tension in society.

Yeltsin's Appointment of Gaydar Considered

*PM2206083992 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jun 92 p 1*

[I. Savvateyeva report: "Yeltsin Asks Gaydar To Be Top Man"]

[Text] Yesterday's B. Yeltsin decree confirming Yegor Gaydar as chairman of the Russian Government completes the series of personnel changes which the president has been making recently. After the "Gaydarite"

Lopukhin was replaced as minister of fuel and power engineering by oil industry "general" Chernomyrdin, after directorate [direktorat] representatives Georgiy Khizha and Vladimir Shumeyko were appointed vice premiers, and after yet another "Gaydarite," Aleksandr Shokhin, was relieved of his post as minister of labor and employment, this decree by Yeltsin may seem unexpected.

However, several experts had prophesied something of the kind earlier: Boris Yeltsin, whose July visit in to Munich to meet with leaders of the G-7 countries is now being urgently prepared, has to offer our potential creditors pretty conclusive proof that the reform course remains unchanged. Gaydar's appointment as chairman of the government will certainly be put forward as one of the most weighty arguments. And in the eyes of the public worldwide and here at home it should take the edge off the distressing impression given by the recent personnel changes.

A number of observers, however, as well as several representatives of the Russian Government including Yegor Timurovich himself, had in fact called earlier for the situation not to be overdramatized, suggesting that Khizha and Shumeyko were genuine supporters of the market despite their directorate [direktorskiy] history. Suggesting also that Lopukhin's resignation was but a forced sideways step, a concession to the superior strength of the raw materials and military-industrial lobbies, but under no circumstances a deviation from the strategic line of reforms. If this really is true, in the logic of things it is precisely now, when Gaydar has been unequivocally named as No. 1, that we should expect the next in the series of attacks, but this time from the "Gaydarites." The first stage of such an attack (if it is at all possible) should probably take place in parliament, where the Law on the Government is at present being examined.

In any event the immediate future will in all probability show what is behind the series of appointments which has caused such a fuss: indecision by Yeltsin, who having written off the Gaydar team is only trying to "save face" with the IMF; or the subtle calculation of an experienced politician who has risked making tactical retreats for the sake of a strategic move forward. One Russian Government staffer with whom I chanced to talk recently said that by the end of June it will be clear whether he needs to look for a new job or whether it will be possible to remain with Gaydar.

Foreign Ministry Meeting With Parties Reviewed

924C1714A Moscow KURANTY in Russian
No 97, 20 May 92 p 6

[Report by Vyacheslav Kabanov: "The 'High-Rise' in Smolenskaya—Communicator of Different Opinions"]

[Text] A regular meeting between Russian diplomats and representatives of political parties has been held in the

Foreign Ministry of the Russian Federation. The smallness (up to several thousand members) of the parties was not the least bit embarrassing for the Foreign Ministry people. This practice of meetings began back in the days when the Russian Foreign Ministry inhabited Staraya Square. As V. Savelyev, chief of the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry UVS [Department for Relations With the Supreme Soviet of Russia and Political and Social Organizations], observed, "the orientation of the Union Foreign Ministry toward the CPSU was detrimental, an orientation of the Foreign Ministry of the Russian Federation now toward some one new party would be detrimental also." The Foreign Ministry of Russia is offering itself for the role of communicator for all Russian political parties, primarily as regards the sphere of international relations.

Approximately 30 social and political organizations are already operating in Russia, but only one-third of them had conceived a desire to socialize with professionals from the "high-rise". And about 20 party leaders and coordinators were comfortably accommodated in a room kindly made available by the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry UVS. The parties roundly castigated the Sixth Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation. And this strong unity of the new left and right was tersely expressed by L. Ubozhko, chairman of the Conservative Party, who confidently declared that "the congress is unnecessary, it is time to ask it to resign." "Heated" Karabakh and the Dniester region were mentioned by almost every speaker as a rebuke of the Foreign Ministry's slowness in settling these conflicts. The need to exclude any power solution of the crisis situations was emphasized particularly. Colleagues from the Christian Democratic Union of Russia Party (PKhDSR) differed somewhat in their assessment of the activity of the Foreign Ministry. Its chairman, A. Ogorodnikov, observed that, "to the Foreign Ministry's credit, much is being done to alter Russia's image...to present the Russian state overseas not as an enemy but a friend." The visit to Moscow of G. Gabrielyan, cochairman of the regional organization of the PKhDSR in St. Petersburg, which fortuitously coincided with the Foreign Ministry meeting, enabled him to accuse the Foreign Policy Department of the "absence of a policy of national interests." An altercation and minor theoretical argument resulted among representatives of the Constitutional Democratic Party (Party of Popular Freedom) [KPD-NS] and the Social Democratic Party of the Russian Federation.

N. Narochitskaya (KPD-NS) spoke with conviction about the fact that "in the international arena Russia needs to uphold the right to a neutralist independent position." The KPD believes that two acute problems are at the focus of Russian international affairs: "the question of sea borders—Crimea and the Pacific—and the subsequent fate of part of the islands of the Kuril chain." In respect to the Kurils the constitutional democrats believe that "now is not the time to be making concessions—our nation would not accept this," and

that "Crimea is historically ours." As a whole, the KPD emphatically advocates observance of current international treaties.

An attack on the constitutional democrats was launched by a Social Democrat, who told those present in the room that "treaties are not dogma, times and circumstances change." Names and dates of international agreements and pacts flashed by. The party "teach-in" approached an end. It was clear that the new political detachments have an insatiable interest in Russia's diplomatic activity.

There were not many specific proposals. Only two parties differed in this respect. V. Bogachev, chairman of the European Liberal Democratic Party of Russia, called on the leading political forces to study exclusively economic questions. The liberals boasted of their recent agreement with a CSFR delegation on supplies to Russia of food, clothing, and footwear. Party activists will hand over the supplies at low prices to organizations and plants. Another appeal was addressed by the Social Democrats—for the creation of an interparty assembly on international issues. One had the impression, incidentally, that the Social Democrats aspire to approach foreign policy problems seriously. At least, they have formed an international commission for the development of ties and a concept of international relations.

Finally the diplomats assured those assembled that it was their intention to cooperate and take in and consider all the ideas and criticism emanating from the political parties and to pass on the information on Russia's political spectrum to the central staff of the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry and Russian embassies overseas.

Yeltsin Enacts Decrees on Export Duties

OW2006015692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0045 GMT 19 Jun 92

[From the "Trade and Investment" feature; under the heading "Laws and Regulations"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] PRESIDENTIAL DECREE "ON PROCEDURES FOR EXPORT OF STRATEGICALLY IMPORTANT RAW MATERIALS"

Presidential decree No. 628, signed by Boris Yeltsin on June 14, is designed to safeguard Russia's economic interests, prevent foreign exchange revenues from being unlawfully deposited abroad, and avert harmful competition among Russian enterprises on external markets.

The decree provides that starting from July 1 1992, the right to export strategically important raw materials will belong only to those enterprises and organizations which have been specially registered for these purposes by Russia's Ministry for External Economic Ties (MEET).

The list of these materials is to be approved by June 25 (a provisional list of these commodities was published by T&I on June 12).

The decree requests the MEET, jointly with the State Committee on Antimonopoly Policy and other government agencies to approve "Regulations on the registration of enterprises and organizations having the right to export strategically important raw materials" within ten days of the signing of the decree.

The organizations authorized to export strategically important raw materials will provide intermediation services to exporters under contracts and on the basis of commissions.

The rate and other terms of commissions will be defined by the government.

These organizations may use none but the settlement accounts declared during their registration for paying export duties and selling foreign exchange associated with the export of strategically important raw materials. Should they violate the export rules set by the decree, they are stripped of the right to mediate in the export of these commodities for a term of up to one year.

Starting on September 1 1992, Russia's State Customs Committee has been instructed to permit the export of strategically important raw materials only under contracts with the organizations expressly authorized by the MEET.

The export of critical commodities under contracts which were concluded prior to the issuance of the decree may be continued until all obligations arising from the contracts have been discharged, provided that shipments have already begun.

The MEET should, within a month's time, to present to the government a set of proposals with respect to procedures for the shipment of commodities to other members of the Commonwealth during the second half of the year. In this, the MEET is to be guided by the provisions of the decree and intergovernmental agreements.

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ON NEW "TEMPORARY" EXPORT TARIFF

The Russian president signed on June 14 a decree "On Partial Alterations in the Procedure of Levying Export Duties and the Procedure of Compulsory Sales of a Portion of Foreign Exchange Earnings to the State" (whose draft was carried by T&I on June 5). The decree is to go into force on July 1.

The Russian government has until January 1 1993 to examine the issue of exemptions from and rebates of export duties, evaluate the expediency of these preferences, and—if necessary—draft proposals on scrapping them.

The presidential decree also requests the government to define within a month's time the procedures for levying export duties on goods shipped to other members of the Commonwealth.

HALF OF HARD CURRENCY EARNINGS TO BE SOLD AT MARKET RATE

The decree provides for the "special commercial exchange rate of the ruble" (Rb55 to the dollar), currently used in compulsory sales by enterprises of 40% of their foreign exchange earnings to Russia's Republican Currency Reserve, to be abandoned from July 1. It will be replaced by a single commercial exchange rate set by the Central Bank, which will apply to all payments and settlements between the state and enterprise and shall be used for taxation and accounting purposes.

The decree obligates enterprises irrespective of their ownership arrangements to sell half of their foreign exchange revenues through the country's authorized banks in the domestic foreign exchange market not later than 14 counting days after they are collected. Transportation, insurance and forwarding expenses incurred abroad are to be deducted from the gross revenues. The duties will be levied by the State Customs Committee of the Russian Federation.

The foreign exchange revenues from exports or from sales of goods and services for hard currency within Russia are to be by all means deposited in accounts with the authorized banks on its territory.

Failures to report foreign exchange revenues are punishable by fines amounting to the ruble equivalent of the sum concealed, which will be levied by customs officials or the Foreign Exchange Control Inspectorate. The fine does not waive the requirement to transfer foreign exchange revenues to Russia.

In order to facilitate control over transactions involving foreign exchange, exporters will have to communicate the name of the authorized bank to customs officials and provide documents evidencing its consent to effect payments for each specific transaction.

NEW EXPORT DUTIES

The decree sets out new rates of export duties on a number of goods and services. The duties are to be assessed in Ecu per unit of weight of the goods or as percentage of the dutiable value of the goods and services.

In the case of other transactions, the 30% surcharge which has been added to the rate of export duties since May 1 1992 is to go up to 50% from January 1 1993.

Export duties will be levied on enterprises irrespective of their ownership arrangements. However, the decree requests the government to accord preferential treatment to joint ventures with respect to compulsory sales of foreign exchange revenues. Partial exemption from export duties will be enjoyed by exporters of products

and materials intended for construction projects carried forward under intergovernmental agreements.

Export duties will accrue to the federal budget. The regions that have been granted preferences with respect to export duties will have subventions from the federal budget reduced accordingly.

Export duties are to be paid in rubles prior to or at the moment of presentment of goods for inspection by customs officials, with the sum payable computed on the basis of the market exchange rate set by the Central Bank (currently Rb85 to the dollar). A special permission by the Finance Ministry is necessary for payment to be made in foreign exchange.

Customs authorities may permit exporters to defer payment of export duties for a period of up to 60 days, charging them payment amounting to .2% of the dutiable value of the goods for each day of the respite. The charge amounts to 0.01% in payment is made in foreign exchange.

LIST OF GOODS SUBJECT TO EXPORT DUTIES UPON EXPORT OUT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION (projected export tariff rates)

NAME OF PRODUCT	TARIFF (in ECU per ton)
Portland cement, alumina cement	7
Iron ores, including roasted iron pyrite	2
Copper ores	10
Zinc ores	40
Chromium ores	5
Tungsten ores	900
Uranium ores	51000
Thorium ores	11000
Titanium ores	100
Zirconium ores	200
Vanadium ores	100
Silver ores	100,000
Anthracite with volatile substances content under 10% by weight	2
Coking coal	8
Coke and semi-coke	16
Crude oil (including gas condensate)	48
Aviation gasoline	57
Other motor gasoline grades (with lead content under 0.013 g/l)	57
Other motor gasoline grades (with lead content under 0.013 g/l)	57
Kerosene	35
Gas oil (diesel fuel)	51
Petroleum gas and other gas hydrocarbons	39
Strontium and barium	3,000

NAME OF PRODUCT	TARIFF (in ECU per ton)
Rare-earth metals, scandium and yttrium (including their mixtures and alloys)	10,000
Mercury	600
Titanium oxides	800
Lead oxide	100
Phenols, phenol alcohols	300
Acetone	130
Nitrogen fertilizers	20
Phosphoric fertilizers	20
Potash fertilizer	30
Mineral fertilizer, containing two or three of the ft. [as received] minerals: nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium	20
Lubricants	490
Natural rubber	450
Synthetic rubber and oil rubber	75
Rubber in primary forms or in slabs, sheets or ribbons	75
Hides of cattle and animals from the horse family	130
Hides of sheep or lambs	100
Other raw hides	70
Undressed timber	45
Lumber	70
Plywood	75
Compressed wood	250
Wood cellulose	69
Newsprint in rolls or sheets	74
Uncoated paper and paperboard	90
Raw silk	300
Silk yarn	1,950
Wool	360
Wool yarn	690
Cotton fiber, uncombed	315
Cotton fiber combed	750
Flax fiber	68
Bricks, blocks, tiles for construction purposes	75
Fire-resistant bricks, blocks, tiles	53
Pig iron	21
Ferroalloys	32
Iron and steel scrap and waste; ingots for remelting	16
Iron and carbon steel in ingots or other primary forms	25
Iron or carbon-steel flat hot-rolled products with width not less than 600 mm	50
Iron or carbon steel wire	60

NAME OF PRODUCT	TARIFF (in ECU per ton)
Stainless steel in ingots	155
Stainless steel wire	200
Other alloyed steels in ingots	30
Cast-iron pipes with small and large diameters	50
Pipes with small and large diameters made of other ferrous metals	75
Other pipes with small and large diameters	75
Ferrous metal castings	40
Refined copper	500
Raw copper-zinc alloys (brasses)	500
Raw copper-tin alloys; (bronzes)	500
Copper-nickel alloys	500
Multi-filament wires, cables, tapes in braiding and similar copper articles	800
Plain aluminum	290
Aluminum alloys	290
Aluminum pipes with small and large diameters	800
Zinc	340
Tin and semifinished items made of tin	1,000
Tungsten and articles made of it	1,500
Molybdenum and articles made of it	1,500
Tantalum and articles made of it	40,000
Titanium and articles made of it	11,000
Zirconium and articles made of it	2,000
Raw Chromium	1,600
Niobium, rhenium	30,000
Ships and other water-borne vessels meant to be used as scrap-metal	17
NAME OF PRODUCT	TARIFF RATE (as % of dutiable value)
Products of plant-growing and livestock-raising sectors	20
Products of food industry, tobacco, beverages	20
Chemicals	20
Timber and products thereof	20
Noble metals, precious and semi-precious stones, pearls, as well as products thereof	20
Weapons and military hardware	27
NAME OF SERVICE	TARIFF RATE (as % of excess of revenues over expenses)
Transport services	20
Insurance and forwarding services	20
Trade intermediation and banking transactions	20
Services in tourism and culture	20

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ON NEW "TEMPORARY" IMPORT DUTIES

On June 14, the Russian President signed decree No. 630 "On the Temporary Import Customs Tariff of the Russian Federation", which is to go into force on July 1 1992. The decree is designed to encourage domestic production of higher value-added products and increase budget revenues from external economic activities. The decree comes as a preliminary step towards the introduction in Russia of a permanent import customs tariff.

Import duties will be assessed as a percentage of the customs value of imported goods as determined by the Russian government, and will be paid in rubles with the sum payable to be computed on the basis of the rubles market exchange rate set by the Central Bank.

The duty will be levied on all importers without exception. A maximum of \$10,000 worth of goods may be imported duty-free by individuals in attended and non-attended baggage or in postal parcels. Goods for personal consumption may also be imported duty-free. Cars imported by individuals are subject to duties levied at the rate of 0.1 ECU per 1 cc of displacement volume.

The decree requests the State Customs Committee to establish quotas for duty-free import of goods not intended for sale. According to draft documents obtained by Interfax, up to 5 liters of beer, 10 liters of alcoholic beverages and 1,000 pieces of tobacco goods may be imported duty-free in attended luggage.

Import duties are to be paid to customs officials prior to or at the moment when the customs declaration is presented.

Deferments for up to 30 days may be granted in exceptional cases, either on the security of property or when there are guarantees of an authorized bank.

Exemption from the import duty may be granted by the Russian government only. All previously accorded exemptions will become invalid with the exception of those extended under legislative acts and Russia's international agreements. Thus, the assumption by Russia of the international obligations of the former USSR makes it necessary to grant exemption from the import duty to those products originating from developing countries which belong to sections 1 through 24 of the commodity classification. Staple foodstuffs and essential medicines are also exempted.

The decree permits the Russian government to accord preferences with respect to the rate of the import duty on goods imported from countries belonging to the same customs union or free trade zone as Russia does, or are planning to create such a union or zone.

The rate of the import duty is to be doubled if the goods in question are imported from countries with which Russia does not have agreements on the most favored nation treatment in trade.

IMPORT CUSTOMS TARIFF RATES FOR SELECTED GOODS

Beer, wine, spirits	20-25
Alcohol	10
Video and audio equipment, TV sets	15
Cars and other vehicles for transporting passengers	15
Other goods	5

Yeltsin Decree on Foreign Payments in 1992

PM2206101192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 17 Jun 92 First Edition p 5

["Russian Federation Presidential Decree 'On Payment and Settlement Relations in Russian Federation Foreign Economic Relations in 1992'"]

[Text] For the purposes of guaranteeing favorable conditions in which to maintain foreign economic relations and implement intergovernmental agreements with foreign countries in 1992, I resolve:

1. Russian Federation payment and settlement relations with foreign countries in 1992 are maintained according to current world prices in freely convertible currency, unless Russian Federation intergovernmental agreements stipulate otherwise.

2. Russian Federation payment and settlement relations with Hungary, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia, the Yugoslav Republic, and Finland in the sphere of transactions concerning itemized [indikativnyy] commodity lists in accordance with Russian Federation intergovernmental trade and economic agreements for 1992 can be maintained through special accounts using the following procedure:

the foreign partner pays the full cost of the goods and services being exported from the Russian Federation to the partner's country in accordance with 1992 commodity lists primarily by letter of credit and in freely convertible currency;

part of the hard currency proceeds derived from the export of goods and services and subject to compulsory sale to the Russian Federation Republic Currency Reserve must, after deduction of the requisite transfers [perechisleniya] to the currency funds of republics within the Russian Federation, krays, and oblasts, be deposited in a special account opened by a bank authorized by the Russian Federation Government in an authorized bank of the partner's country and used to pay for the import on competitive terms of goods and services from the given country and to extinguish that country's debt

accruing to the Russian Federation in accordance with intergovernmental agreements;

the remaining part of hard currency proceeds can be deposited on behalf of those Russian enterprises supplying goods and services into a special account opened by a bank authorized by the Russian Federation Government on its instructions in an authorized bank of the partner's country, and 2 percent is transferred by them into the currency funds of the republics within the Russian Federation, krais, and oblasts. Sums deposited in this account are used on behalf of Russian proprietors of resources in the currency fund for payments in favor of enterprises and organizations in the partner's country to pay for goods and services being imported on competitive terms and according to contracts with designated Russian enterprises and organizations.

In the event of the Russian proprietors' failing to use the currency fund resources in this special account, then the amount which remains once the period agreed by intergovernmental agreements has expired must be transferred, on the instructions of the bank authorized by the Russian Federation Government, in freely convertible currency to the account of an approved Russian commercial bank in favor of the relevant Russian currency holder, with the subsequent obligatory sale by the said holder of 10 percent of this sum to the Russian Federation Central Bank to form the stabilization currency fund.

3. Russian Federation payment and settlement relations with India, Syria, Egypt, Cuba, Bulgaria, and Afghanistan in the sphere of transactions involving itemized commodity lists, as well as those involving objects of technical aid and military-technical cooperation in accordance with Russian Federation intergovernmental trade and economic agreements for 1992, can be maintained through clearing accounts organized by banks with Russian Federation Government authorization and authorized banks in the aforementioned countries.

Part of the hard currency proceeds derived from the export of goods and services and subject to deposit in the Russian Federation Republic Currency Reserve must be used to pay for imports from the aforementioned countries according to itemized lists.

The remaining part of the currency earnings subject to deposit in the currency funds of Russian enterprises supplying goods and services, and also in the currency funds of republics within the Russian Federation, krais, and oblasts, must be used for payments in favor of organizations in the partner country to pay for goods and services imported from that country under contracts with the said Russian organizations.

In the event that they are not used, currency resources in clearing accounts belonging to Russian enterprises and proprietor-organizations can be sold by them on the Russian Federation currency market according to current rates.

4. Settlements for objects of technical aid and military-technical cooperation with China, India, Mongolia, the DPRK, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam can be paid primarily in cash or, in specific cases, on terms of credit in special accounts opened for this purpose by Russian Federation Government authorized banks on a compensation basis, with full or partial payment in commodity supplies.

5. Part of the hard currency receipts in freely convertible currency from exports to Mongolia and Albania, which is subject to compulsory sale to the Russian Federation Republic Currency Reserve after deduction of requisite transfers to the currency funds of republics within the Russian Federation, krais, and oblasts, must be deposited in separate accounts in the Bank for Foreign Economic Activity and used to pay for purchases of goods on competitive terms from Mongolia and Albania respectively.

6. Developing countries' debts to the former USSR should be extinguished in line with existing and newly concluded intergovernmental and interbank agreements.

7. Participants in Russian Federation foreign economic relations and foreign countries can, within the confines of set quotas for the export of products (labor and services) according to mutual agreement, pay in national currencies through authorized commercial banks using the rates quoted by those banks for hard currency, without government organs' taking responsibility for regulating the sides' emerging commitments and the balance of payments for such transactions.

8. On the basis of projected forecasts for exports and imports and balances of payments the Russian Federation Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations in conjunction with the Russian Federation Ministry of Economics, the Russian Federation Ministry of Fuel and Energy, the Russian Federation Central Bank, the Bank for Foreign Economic Activity, and the Foreign Trade Bank of Russia must conduct conclusive talks with foreign countries and, on reaching agreement, sign corresponding intergovernmental documents on the volumes of mutual commodity turnover and the systems for payments and settlement relations for 1992, including ways of regulating the emerging balance of mutual payments.

9. Current legislation in the sphere of payment and settlement relations in foreign economic relations must be brought into line with this Decree.

10 This Decree comes into force according to procedure established by the 1 November 1991 Fifth Congress of Russian People's Deputies Resolution "On a Legal Guarantee for the Economic Reform."

[signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
The Kremlin, Moscow, 12 June 1992, No. 621

Decree on Productive Forces, Cooperation Eyed

PM2206124592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 17 Jun 92 First Edition p 5

[Decree No. 616 of the Russian Federation president:
"On the Creation of the Council for the Deployment of
Productive Forces and Economic Cooperation"]

[Text] With a view to enhancing the justifiability of decisions adopted on economic cooperation with the CIS countries and other states which were formerly Soviet republics, as well as decisions on the economic development of Russia's regions and the elaboration of theoretical foundations for the formation of a common economic area, and the improvement and deepening of scientific research into the deployment of productive forces and interstate economic relations, I resolve that:

1. The Council for the Study of Productive Forces under the Russian Federation Ministry of the Economy (along with its scientific centers) will be transformed into the Council for the Deployment of Productive Forces and Economic Cooperation (CDPFEC). This council will be simultaneously subordinate to the Russian Federation Ministry of the Economy and the Russian Federation State Committee for Economic Cooperation with Commonwealth States.

The CDPFEC is the full successor to the Russian Federation Ministry of the Economy's Council for the Study of Productive Forces.

2. Academician Aleksandr Grigoryevich Granberg, adviser to the Russian Federation president on questions of the economic community and interrepublic relations, will be appointed chairman of the CDPFEC (on a voluntary basis).

3. The CDPFEC chairman, the Russian Federation minister of the economy, and the chairman of the Russian Federation State Committee for Economic Cooperation with the Commonwealth States shall submit to the Russian Federation Government within one month the statutes of the CDPFEC and proposals on the avenues for its scientific research work, financing, the development of the Council's material and technical base, and on material and day-to-day backup for the Council's staffers and leadership.

[Signed] B. Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation
[Dated] Moscow, the Kremlin, 11 June 1992
No. 616.

Moscow Rallies Continue

Ostankino Beset; Communists Rally in Manezh

Moscow Soviet Backs Picketers

MK1906123292 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 19 Jun 92 p 2

[I.R. report: "City Hall and Moscow Soviet Once Again at Odds"]

[Text] It turns out that the existence of a tent encampment outside Ostankino was not the only breach of picket procedure. Demonstrators are still exceeding the restrictions imposed by the mayor's ordinance as regards the duration of and number of people involved in the picket: There is a larger crowd than there should be around the television center after 1800 hours. Moreover, they are illegally using loudspeaker equipment and holding up anticonstitutional banners which are not in keeping with the subject of the picket. If all this continues, authorization for the picket will be repealed—Moscow City Hall yesterday gave an as yet verbal warning of this, and today this threat may take written form.

As always, the Moscow Soviet does the opposite. The day before yesterday their session adopted as a base a decision backing the pickets. Many deputies insisted on giving the picketing oppositionists air time and warned Yuriy Luzhkov of the inadmissibility of strong-arm methods. The Moscow Soviet instructed its chairman to set up a working group to coordinate talks between the oppositionists and the administration at the "Ostankino" Studio.

Luzhkov Warns Against Meetings

LD1906142892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1200 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] A statement by the Moscow Government has come in to our editorial office regarding an item published in the 12 June edition of PRAVDA. We will read it in full:

In connection with the publication in PRAVDA of an article entitled—What Sort of Meeting Without the OMON—which reports on the forthcoming meeting set for 22 June—a new all-Russian meeting next to the Ostankino television company building—the Government of Moscow states:

No organizations or groups of citizens have submitted to the Moscow mayor's office any statement on holding a rally on 22 June 1992 at Ostankino in accordance with the decree of the President of the Russian Federation on the procedure for organizing and holding rallies, street processions, or demonstrations, or in accordance with any other current legislation in this regard. The current legislation does not distinguish between local and all-union rallies, nor does it equate demonstrations with rallies. These two mass events have different legal aspects, so permission granted by the Mayor of Moscow on 26 May this year to hold a demonstration cannot be extended to a rally or any other mass event. The Government of Moscow draws the attention of the organizers of the demonstration to the continuing gross violations of the conditions for picketing set out in the mayor's instruction of 26 May, No. 260.

Apart from pitching tents, those participating in the demonstration have violated the conditions on the number of participants—no more than 100; on the

time—up to 1800; and, the main thing, on the aim of the demonstration. The slogans and appeals used during the demonstration and set out in documentary form insult the honor and dignity of the president of the Russian Federation and could be used for inflaming national or religious hatred and propagating violence.

In this connection and in connection with the intention of the Working Russia movement to hold an illegal meeting 22 June 1992, the Government of Moscow warns that it retains the right to take the necessary measures not to permit the holding of the meeting and to draw a conclusion with regard to the possibility of the further picketing of the Ostankino television complex.

The statement is signed by Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov.

Opposition Broadcasts To Air

*LD1906211292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1500 GMT 19 Jun 92*

[Text] A meeting between the leadership of the Ostankino Television and Radio Broadcasting Company and leaders of the country's major opposition parties and movements was held on 19 June. Those taking part agreed that the recent demonstrations outside the television center were a consequence of the inadequate reflection of opposition views in television and radio programs.

An accord was reached to immediately set up a joint working group to determine concrete ways in which the opposition might get its voice on the air.

Meanwhile, even before the results of the group's work are available, Ostankino is to begin preparing regular programs involving the opposition in Community countries. A fruitful exchange of opinions was held on other matters of broad mutual interest concerning state policy in the media field.

Those taking part in the meeting were Mikhail Poltoranin, Russian Federation minister of the press and information, and Vyacheslav Bragin, chairman of the parliamentary committee for mass media.

Those represented at the meeting were the Russian National Assembly, the Council of Popular Patriotic Forces of Russia, the Russian People's Union, and the Russian People's Assembly.

OMON Activated

*OW2206123592 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1137 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] From 4 till 5 a.m., June 22, in implementation of the Moscow authorities' instructions, the Moscow militia eliminated the tents still remaining in front of the Ostankino TV center, Moscow's Interior Department informed IF [INTERFAX].

According to the same source, the operation involved OMON (special purpose militia detachment) units. No one was seriously injured. Wounds were only inflicted on the OMON men. During the operation, supporters of the Working Russia movement, which was an organizer of the picket, were detained.

This movement's leaders informed IF that the elimination of the tent camp began when the picketers lit candles to commemorate those who fell during World War II. They said the operation involved 10 vehicles whose crews were armed with sub-machine-guns and batons. Three people were seriously injured, they said, and 15 people were arrested and their whereabouts are unknown.

Moscow's Interior Department told IF that "in the event of an unsanctioned meeting in Ostankino today, the militia has been instructed to take adequate measures to prevent disorder".

'Nothing Special Happened'

*LD2206212792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1730 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Text] We have received through ITAR-TASS channels an official statement by the Moscow Ministry of Internal Affairs on the removal of the demonstrators from near the Ostankino television center. The statement says:

At 0430 on 22 June measures were implemented to remove those citizens who had voluntarily occupied the square in order to drive a vehicle near the tower of the Ostankino television center. Many of those who had gathered, numbering about 150, refused to carry out the lawful demands of the members of the militia and put up active physical resistance. During this resistance, 13 militia members sustained injuries and varying degrees of other harm, and 14 people were detained for anti-lawful activities. It needs to be pointed out that many of these people were not inhabitants of Moscow and were unemployed. Rumors about people being killed and hundreds being injured are false and without foundation, the official statement of the Moscow Interior Ministry states.

I also would like to confirm that from what we saw today with our own eyes this morning there were not many people there and nothing special happened.

14 Protestors Detained

*LD2206135892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1317 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Larisa Kislinskaya]

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS—Police today detained 14 protesters after at least 13 officers were hurt in clashes with pro-communist demonstrators near Ostankino Television Center in Moscow.

The elite OMON [special purpose militia detachment] troops moved in to remove pickets around the TV station at 4:30 A.M. Moscow time today.

Police said the 14 were arrested for resisting police orders "violently".

One protester was hospitalized with bruises, law-enforcement officials said. They denied rumors that several people were killed during the clashes.

Most of those detained turned out to be out of town residents, police said.

Police also said they have been ordered to prevent an "unauthorized" rally on Manezh Square, scheduled later today.

Communists, Nationalists Rally at Exhibition

"Totalled About 5,000"

LD2206181892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Today at about 1700, a rally organized by communist and ultra-nationalist groupings started at the entrance of the former Exhibition of Economic Achievements in Moscow, reports INTERFAX.

According to militia information, the unsanctioned rally totalled about 5,000 protesters. At 1720, militia detachments equipped with bulletproof vests, shields, and batons were brought to the square in front of the Exhibition. They did not take any actions against the protesters, even though they were subjected to abuse. Twenty minutes later, the participants decided to leave the square in front of the former Exhibition and move towards the Manezh. According to a representative of the Moscow Chief Directorate of Internal Affairs, the operation, in which about 500 militia took part, has been conducted in line with a decision by Moscow authorities to stop the illegal gathering.

As our correspondent reports, the crowd of about 5,000 people has been stopped by OMON [special purpose militia detachment] on the square in front of Rizhskiy railway station. Supporters of communist and ultra-nationalist groupings made an attempt to break through to the Manezh. When stopped at the Rizhskiy Railway station square, the participants of the unauthorized rally began throwing stones and bottles at OMON personnel. OMON is not reciprocating with force.

Clash With Police

OW2206195292 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1900 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At 18:30 on Monday [22 June] a column of demonstrators moving from the VDNKh [Main Committee for Exhibition of Achievements of the National

Economy] exhibition towards Manezh square was stopped by police near the square in front of the Rizhskiy railway station. Prospekt Mira street and nearby streets leading to the center were blocked by police cordons and trucks. Yet, the column tried to break through the police lines and proceed towards the center. Police had to use truncheons to force the attackers back. A fierce clash lasted five to seven minutes. There were injured on both sides. Police claimed that stones were thrown at them.

The demonstrators refused to leave the square in front of the railway station. They stopped traffic and held an improvised rally.

The leader of the Russian Communist Workers' Party and the "Labour Russia" movement Viktor Anpilov called on the assembled to hold a sit-in strike. From the roof of a trolley-bus the speakers urged police to ignore "criminal orders" and to join the demonstrators.

Contrary to a statement by Moscow police officials to the effect that during the night-time operation to remove the picketers' tent camp in front of the Ostankino television center the police managed to avoid casualties among the picketers, the leaders of the opposition and demonstrators claim that five people died—one veteran and four teenagers.

Supreme Soviet

Deputies Argue Over Blame in Ostankino Protests

LD2206164292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1520 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow, 22 Jun—The Russian constitutional system has been placed in jeopardy by an increase in the level of activity by extremist organizations. This idea was mentioned several times by the participants of the parliamentary hearings held at the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet today to discuss the events of the past week near the Ostankino television center.

Speaking at the hearings, Yevgeniy Sevastyanov, chief of the Moscow city and oblast directorate of the Russian Security Ministry, described the actions near Ostankino as "mass hooliganism and an attempt to find out how far the authorities can be pushed before they will be humiliated".

Even sharper views could be heard among the deputies. However, the hearings were dominated not so much by a desire to sort out and analyze the events that took place but by reproaches directed at the Procuracy, the Interior Ministry, and the Russian Security Ministry for their apathy.

Oleg Poptsov, head of the Russian television and radio company, openly accused the law enforcement bodies of "being by-standers who are waiting for a change of power

so that they can immediately switch their loyalties." Deputy Vladimir Varov also expressed the idea that not only do some of the representatives of the law enforcement bodies lack the desire to investigate incidents such as at Ostankino, but they may well be to blame for initiating them.

Authorities Called 'Passive'

LD2206211992 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] While the events at the Television Center were taking an unpredictable turn, the Committee on the Mass Media was holding hearings on the threat to the constitutional system in connection with the activities of extremist organizations. This conversation should have been held at least one week ago but at the time the Supreme Soviet did not deem it possible to include it on the agenda. Permission for the meeting and pickets was obtained from the Mayor of Moscow according to the regulations.

However, Viktor Anpilov [leader of Working Moscow organization] and others violated the conditions for holding the meeting and pickets on several occasions, which obliged the Procuracy and Militia to take steps. Several criminal charges have been brought but, absurd as it may be, there is as yet no substantial evidence against Anpilov, so far the most active of the initiators of the events at Ostankino.

The Moscow authorities, and with them the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Security, have been astonishingly passive, justifying this by saying that law and order bodies should not intervene in a political conflict.

[Oleg Poptsov, chairman of the Russian State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company] Bodies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Security, and the Procuracy are playing a waiting game, effectively just watching and waiting for a change of power whereupon they would immediately swear allegiance to it. [video shows meeting in progress and Poptsov in close-up]

Law on Formation of Ingush Republic Released

PM2206124192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 17 Jun 92 First Edition p 5

[Russian Federation Law No. 2927-1: "On the Formation of the Ingush Republic within the Russian Federation"]

[Text] Having examined the Russian Federation president's legislative proposal on the transformation of the Chechen-Ingush Republic within the Russian Federation, the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet resolves that:

Article 1. An Ingush Republic shall be set up within the Russian Federation.

The question of the Chechen Republic shall be decided once the crisis situation in the republic is resolved.

Article 2. With a view to implementing the 26 April 1991 RSFSR law "On the Rehabilitation of Repressed Peoples," the state commission set up by the Russian Federation Government shall prepare legal and organizational measures for state-territorial demarcation, bearing in mind the interests of the Cossacks and the possible expansion of their self-administration within the Ingush Republic, as well as the interests of ethnic minorities. The commission shall also resolve certain issues pertaining to the formation of the Ingush Republic.

All disputes shall be resolved in accordance with the Russian Federation Constitution and Russian Federation legislation.

Article 3. Elections to the Ingush Republic Supreme Soviet shall be held. The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium, mindful of the opinion of Ingush Republic representatives, shall determine the procedure and timetable for the elections.

Article 4. A transitional period extending until March 1994 shall be set for resolving issues pertaining to the formation of the Ingush Republic.

[Signed] B. Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation
Moscow, House of the Soviets of Russia
4 June 1992
No. 2927-1

Resolution Issued

PM2206124392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 17 Jun 92 First Edition p 5

[Russian Federation Supreme Soviet resolution of 4 June: "On the Procedure for Enacting the Russian Federation Law 'On the Formation of the Ingush Republic Within the Russian Federation'"]

[Text] The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet resolves that:

1. In accordance with Articles 104 and 109 of the Russian Federation Constitution, Article 1 of the Russian Federation law "On the Formation of the Ingush Republic Within the Russian Federation" shall be submitted for ratification by the Russian Federation Congress of People's Deputies.

2. Articles 2, 3, and 4 of the Russian Federation law "On the Formation of the Ingush Republic Within the Russian Federation" shall be enacted from the moment of their publication.

3. Prior to the formation of higher organs of power in Ingushetia, the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium shall appoint an interim Russian Federation Supreme Soviet representative in Ingushetia and ratify his powers.

4. Prior to the formation of administrative organs in the Ingush Republic within the Russian Federation, the Russian Federation president shall be instructed to examine and resolve the question of the procedure for administration in the Ingush Republic, appointing the head of the interim Ingushetia administration.

5. It shall be laid down that the territory of the Ingush Republic shall be drawn up by resolution of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet upon consideration of the results of the work of the state commission set up by the Russian Federation president.

In accordance with the Russian Federation Constitution and on the basis of the coordination of the interests of all parties, the state commission set up by the Russian Federation president shall submit proposals before 31 December 1993 on the definition of the borders of the Ingush Republic and on the normalization of its functioning.

6. All state organs, institutions, organizations, and officials shall ensure observance of citizens' constitutional rights and freedoms in Ingushetia, irrespective of their ethnic origins.

[Signed] S.A. Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet
Moscow, House of the Soviets of Russia
4 June 1992
No. 2928-1

Hearings on Presidential Budget Message Begin

LD2006113592 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1859 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Moscow June 19 TASS—Parliamentary hearings on the presidential budget message for the year of 1992 began at the Council of Nationalities' Hall in the Russian House of Soviets on June 19.

A group of people's deputies and experts improved the document submitted for consideration of the Russian Supreme Soviet for two weeks.

The territorial aspect of the budget message was discussed and the hearings listened to the competent opinion of heads of plan-financial bodies from various Russian regions. This is especially important, taking into account the absence of an efficient budget in the republic, stressed Deputy Minister of Finance S. Korolev.

Hearings witnessed several rational considerations. For instance, the need to upgrade the very concept of budget

relations was voiced: Pass from the system of differentiated norms of deductions to the republican budget to the single norm of revenues from taxes throughout the Russian Federation.

There was also just criticism during the hearings. Chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet Commission on the budget, plans, taxes and prices A. Pochinok noted for instance considerable difference between fundamental indices in the presidential message—traces of preparations of message sections by different departments.

The index of price rise, forecast volumes of revenues and some other aspects require specification. He also said about the planned change of the system of taxation. Draft laws, prepared by the commission, on lowering of taxes on added value, revenue and income tax on physical persons were supported by the president.

The hearings will go on.

Bank Actions Against Ukraine May Be Supported

OW1906213892 Moscow *INTERFAX in English*
1845 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Parliament may support the actions of the Central Bank of Russia [CBR] directed at protecting the Russian economy from uncontrolled credit emissions by national banks in a number of republics, the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament Yuriy Voronin told "IF" [INTERFAX].

On Friday [19 June] the Central Bank of Russia said that it suggested Parliament declare the national banks of republics issuing rubles without Russia's permission "insolvent". In particular, the CBR said that the Central Bank of Ukraine plans to issue the republic's enterprises 300 billion rubles in credits to satisfy debts to Russian partners. The CBR says this will deal "a powerful inflationary blow" on the Russian economy.

"IF" information says; the Russian government did not agree with the Central Bank's statement.

"If the reaction to the Central Bank's statement by the national banks does not correspond to the current social and economic situation, Voronin said, I think the Parliament will support the CBR, as the situation in Russia depends on this". He also said that the Central Bank "has the right to impose separate sanctions" on the national banks if they violate agreements on the fiscal policy.

However, Voronin said, that "it is incorrect to raise the question of the Parliament solving the problem by imposing an embargo on the shipment of goods" as the Central Bank proposed.

The Central Bank's statement was "completely unexpected" for Ukraine, the Deputy Chairman of the

National Bank of Ukraine Dmitry Zaychenko told "IF", "I personally feel that this decision is seriously flawed", he said. Zaychenko said the Central Bank's actions may destroy economic ties between Ukrainian and Russian firms.

In addition, the Deputy Chairman of the Central Bank Sergey Ignatiev said in an interview with "IF" that the Russian bank's statement "was a necessary step". He said that in late May—early June the volume of credit emissions in Ukraine was 500 billion rubles.

At the same time, Ignatiev said that for the first five months of 1992 the Central Bank's credits to commercial banks increased by 300-350 billion rubles.

On May 1, Ukraine owed Russia 50 billion rubles. In light of the recent decision by the Central Bank of Ukraine, the CBR says that figure may grow another 120-150 billion rubles.

Draft Economic Decrees To Be Studied

LD2206212692 Moscow *POSTFACTUM* in English
1848 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Moscow—Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Ruslan Khasbulatov worries that during parliament holidays a dozen economic decrees of the president may appear.

At the June 22 sitting of the Supreme Soviet's Presidium Ruslan Khasbulatov stated: Economic decrees prepared by the president are the worst ones. Khasbulatov asked First Deputy Chairman of the Russian Government Vladimir Shumeyko to present all draft presidential decrees related to economic issues to the Supreme Soviet before mid-July so that the parliament's committees and commissions could discuss the drafts.

Retired Military To Receive Aid for Farms

LD2206213292 Moscow *POSTFACTUM* in English
1848 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Moscow—Presidium of the Russian Supreme Soviet decided to finance the program of assistance to retired military servicemen in the setting up of farms.

On June 22 Presidium of the Russian Parliament passed a resolution recommending that the central bank should open a long-term credit line to the Agrotex Stock Company with the purpose of realization of the program for farms setting up by retired military servicemen. The program created in cooperation with agricultural management agencies envisages allocation of up to R [ruble] 5 billion loans in 1992 with a three-year repayment period.

The Russian Government was obliged to refund commercial banks for the difference between the Central Bank's interest rate and the 8 per cent interest for the above mentioned loan. The government should also allocate in 1992 R1 billion from the funds of farming support to Agrotex in order to finance the training of retired military men turned farmers.

Laws on Refugees, Forced Migrants Reviewed

OW1906185792 Moscow *INTERFAX* in English
1618 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Friday [19 June] the Russian Parliament adopted laws "On Refugees" and "On Forced Migrants" in their initial wording.

These documents define the legal status of refugees and establish legal economic and organizational guarantees for the security of rights for persons who were forced to leave the nation of their permanent residence. In particular, a person having arrived or wishing to arrive to the territory of Russian Federation but having no Russian citizenship and who is forced to leave the place of his permanent residence is considered to be a refugee. This can be caused by violence or persecution due to race or ethnic origin, religion, political convictions, and other circumstances which sharply infringe upon human rights and accomplished in respect to this person.

A forced migrant is a citizen of Russian Federation who, for the same reasons, was forced to leave his place of permanent residence on the territory of another state or on the territory of Russian Federation.

The government program "Migration" envisages the allocation of 3 billion roubles from the 1992 Russian Federation budget to help the refugees and forced migrants.

During discussion of this draft law it was noted that due to the unstable economic and political situation in the former USSR, a mass increase in the forced migration of population to the territory of Russian Federation and from it and in the limits of Russian Federation itself is quite possible according to experts' estimates.

An explanatory note to the adopted laws notes that by the end of 1991 the number of the forced migrants was 800 thousand people, 230 thousand of them on Russian territory.

Regional Affairs

Troops Reportedly on Stand-By in N. Ossetia

LD2206130892 Moscow *Radio Rossii Network*
in Russian 1200 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Parliamentary Chairman Akhsarbek Galazov addressed a meeting of the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet Presidium today. Judging by reports from the

leadership of South Ossetia, he said, the Georgian Army is gathering large forces near Tskhinvali. In a matter of a days 200 homes in the Znaurskiy Rayon have been burned down. In fact, the total elimination of South Ossetia is being prepared.

Galazov revealed that it has become known from a telephone conversation with Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, which took place this morning, that the forces to separate the sides and to punish the aggressors are already on stand-by. All that is needed is a decision by the Russian president to bring them into action. According to Galazov, the silence on the part of the president is due to the fear that the international community will condemn the introduction of Russian forces into the territory of South Ossetia, NEGA reports.

North Ossetian Deputy on Khasbulatov Statement

PM2206101792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
17 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Ali Kazikhanov: "North Ossetia Satisfied With Khasbulatov's Statement"]

[Text] Vladikavkaz—North Ossetia welcomed the statement by Russian Parliamentary Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov on the South Ossetia problem.

I was told by Yuriy Biragov, first deputy chairman of the North Ossetian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet, that the republic had waited a long time for such a step by the Russian leadership and hoped that the statement would be followed by actual steps to settle the bloody conflict in South Ossetia. I am not talking about direct Russian military interference, Yuriy Biragov stressed, but measures to stop the blatant genocide of Ossetians in Georgia: Despite the bilateral accord, the conflagration in Tskhinvali is intensifying rather than abating.

The first deputy chairman of the North Ossetian SSR Supreme Soviet noted that Russia, with which, it was particularly emphasized, Ossetia has been and always will be associated, is paying increased attention to the republic: Humanitarian aid for refugees is arriving from there every day. Russia has made more than 200 million rubles available for the provision of amenities.

Moscow City Council Adopts Appeals to Yeltsin

OW1806115492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1023 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Wednesday [17 June] the Moscow City Council adopted two appeals to President Boris Yeltsin.

One of them drafted by Father Aleksandr Borisov asks for the use of all means recognized in international relations to prevent aggression and bloodshed in areas of ethnic conflicts, especially in the Dniester region and South Ossetia.

The second draws the attention of the president to evident violations of acting legislation in privatization, the use of budget means and sales of humanitarian aid by the Moscow administration. The facts were stated in an article by Yuriy Shchekochikhin for "Literaturnaya Gazeta". The council requested an investigation of the abuse of power cited by the newspaper and appropriate if the facts prove to be true.

Hospital's Plight Typifies Health Sector Ills

PM2206103392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Video report from Moscow by N. Prokofyeva and K. Danin; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Prokofyeva] [Video shows scenes from a hospital ward] In reality, there's a whole bunch of problems. Normal conditions in the medical sphere in our country exist today only in places where the doctors themselves take on a saintly role, prepared to spend time in constant search of vital resources, offering round-the-clock availability, and so on. This center, equipped with modern apparatus, was created in Moscow City Hospital No. 6. It comprises neurological clinics, and the patients here are mainly serious stroke cases. Enormous efforts went into organizing it. And now it is on the brink of collapse. Equipment that has been in use for many years is in need of repairs, certain minor components need replacing. But there is very little money available. And in our current confusion it is not clear whom we should turn to. So leading doctors and professors have to take on the role of eternal petitioners. This is base and shameful. Perhaps things will change once medical insurance is introduced. Perhaps there will be more money, either from the patients or from those who pay for them.

[Professor I.D. Stulin] The people who come to our hospital and use our emergency services are often the most burdened and unfortunate people. Three of Moscow's stations are in the region where we work, and we deal with people who may have come to the capital from remote areas, who may be just passing through. There is no way that they could pay the very high cost which will be entailed if we truly work according to foreign yardsticks—or even according to our own. It will be completely beyond their reach.

[Prokofyev] In the developed countries which we so often seek to emulate, various models of health care exist—insurance, private, and municipal. Now many doctors are worried about focusing on just one model. Will the population group with the least social protection end up helpless? [video shows nurse treating patient in hospital bed]

Moscow Region Joint Ventures To Be Audited

LD1806181192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0952 GMT 18 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mariya Kuzmenkova]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—All joint ventures situated in the Moscow region will soon be subjected to a comprehensive audit and will be reregistered, according to Nikolay Svistunov, the region's minister in charge of foreign economic activities.

There are about 1,000 joint firms registered in the Moscow region, with half functioning only on paper or performing things that are not allowed under their founding documents, Svistunov told ITAR-TASS.

Many joint ventures are being used to pump money abroad, he said. In addition, foreign partners are often insolvent and fail to come up with their share of authorized stock. All joint ventures inspected recently were operating with violations, he said.

Certainly, not all firms violate laws, he said, stressing a [words indistinct] on is a very promising area for foreign investors.

He called for more investment in farming projects and converting defence plants to civilian purposes. Authorities should work to create favorable conditions for foreign investment in the area.

Sobchak Urges End to Economic Paralysis

LD2206170892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Report by correspondent Denis Gurinskiy]

[Text] For almost two months now, the circulation of rubles has been destabilized to the point that the daily shortage of money exceeds 2 billion rubles. The numerous threats by the banking authorities to the commercial sector demanding the reinstatement of the natural rhythm in the cash circulation have yielded no results. Millions of workers and thousands of pensioners spend every day in lines waiting for money to be delivered. Dozens of savings banks also report that they cannot serve their clients as they have no ready cash available. In the meantime, St. Petersburg state and commercial banks report interruptions in cash delivery operations because of the dismissal of staff en masse and because of a sharp rise in money supply. In these conditions the city authorities are trying to avoid social troubles with an administrative method to regulate the work of the sources of cash, the use of checks, above all in retail network and banks. As they believe in Smolnyy, it is possible to make up for the shortage of cash by transferring all major financial operations to the basis of non-cash transactions.

The draft decree by Mayor Sobchak on stabilization of cash circulation in Petersburg contains the demand for restricting the payment of salaries and pensions to 3,000 rubles a month. The rest of the money should be deposited at work places where checks bearing the grand name of "Rossiya" should be subsequently issued. Sobchak's draft decree provides for a moratorium on cash transactions between all enterprises and organizations in St.

Petersburg. As of 1 July, all lawyers, according to the draft decree by the Petersburg mayor, must pay their capital into bank accounts and carry out spending operations only through banks. The experts, however, are sceptical about the extent to which the decree by the Petersburg mayor can be implemented despite the fact that ignoring the mayor's demands will lead to tough administrative and financial measures of punishment. In the view of the experts, the mayor is running the risk of creating a paralysis of economic reforms with the existing circulation of the shadow capital still at hand and the even greater threat of social explosion.

St. Petersburg Region 'Has Started To Glow'

PM2206131192 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
16 Jun 92 p 4

[PRAVDA—RIA-NOVOSTI correspondents' report under the rubric "Briefly and Clearly"]

[Text] Peter [St. Petersburg] has started to "glow." It is polluted by radioactive waste sites; moreover, one of the most dangerous is situated next to the hard currency hotel "Pribaltiyskaya."

A certain military unit engaged in secret work involving the use of radioactive substances was long in operation in the district of Vasilyevskiy Island near Shkiperskiy Channel. The work has finished and the military have departed, burying the radioactive waste right there in the city's soil.

No less than nine extremely dangerous centers of radioactive contamination emitting beta-radiation of up to 50,000 particles per square centimeter per minute, are situated less than 300 meters from the Gulf of Finland. The former authorities concealed the fact that Vasilyevskiy Island has been made dangerous to life over an area of almost one hectare.

Makharadze Tours Maritime Kray, Views Reforms

OW2206143092 Vladivostok Radiostantsiya Tikhiy
Okean Maritime Service in Russian 0715 GMT
20 Jun 92

[Statement by Vice Premier Valeriy Makharadze; from the "Pacific Ocean" program—recorded]

[Text] As we have already reported, the Russian Government delegation headed by Vice Premier Valeriy Makharadze concluded its tour of Maritime Kray. At a meeting with the kray administration and service chiefs, the head of the delegation paid special attention to the process of privatization. As the vice premier has declared, this process proceeds in Maritime Kray at a slower rate than in other regions of Russia.

The development of small and medium-sized businesses is also insufficient in Maritime Kray, and such fields as housing, housing services, and transportation with all its structures have stopped at levels of 5 to 10 years ago. The

vice premier called on the leaders of Maritime Kray to show more initiative and solve problems independently, without waiting for directives from the center.

The government delegation left Maritime Kray for Khabarovsk, where it stayed Wednesday [17 June] and Thursday. Here Valeriy Makhadarze and the members of the delegation held a conference with several administration heads from the Far East krais and oblasts. Enterprise and commercial structure directors and representatives from the region's farming facilities were also present.

On the eve of his visit to Maritime Kray, the Russian Government delegation visited Kamchatka. Our [words indistinct] at Kamchatka Vladimir Kuchin tell about it.

[Kuchin] A Georgian proverb says: A genius is born in the province but dies in the capital. Valeriy Makhadarze, the former first secretary of [words indistinct] Kamchatka rayon Komsomol organization, secretary of the Petropavlovskiy Mechanical Repair Factory Komsomol committee, and today's deputy chairman of the Russian Federation, has spent 24 hours at Kamchatka, the hospitable land of his youth. A demobilized soldier, he did his compulsory service at Kamchatka border posts, and it was here that he decided to embark upon a political career.

Quite a few important people met him as an old acquaintance, while the vice premier, in his turn, demonstrated an impressive knowledge of the affairs of Kamchatka Peninsula. Accompanied by a group of 21 officials, he visited the various facilities of the Oblast Center and [words indistinct]. A meeting with local activists for radical economic reform was organized before the flight to Sakhalin. Tomorrow's active CPSU functionaries, who have today become prominent business people, listened with bated breath to the two-hour lecture by the government's reformer, who admitted to having 30 years of experience in the ranks of our CPSU.

[Begin Makhadarze recording] I would like to assure you of one thing. With all its shortcomings and mistakes, the government works well and conscientiously, without looking back. It acts, and this is both its strength and weakness, since it has no time to defend itself by creating all kinds of political movements and so on. The changes in the government are caused not so much by its weakness or [words indistinct]. The goal is to have pragmatists lead reform in the most difficult time of reorganizing the national economy, carrying out conversion, privatization, and shifts in the economic structure. It is true that people are different, but we are nevertheless a single crew, and all the talk about Yeltsin shifting Gaydar and his boys around and bringing in tough grandfathers—well, let me ask you, who among you would like to take an enterprise which has already felt the advantages of normal, free work and put it back under the former tight control of Moscow? Of course, no one. But the experience of these people will come in handy.

As of now, there are no disagreements among government members. Personally, I do not create any kind of group and political [words indistinct] for myself, and neither Gaydar nor [words indistinct] are engaged in such activities. Therefore, fears of an upcoming split in the government are groundless; however, I must say that the interests of the industrial complex, combined with the efforts of the [words indistinct] Rutskoy and Travkin, and of others who have joined this movement, may have certain consequences. It is my personal opinion that if the government and the vice premiers who have a certain role in industry work properly, things will start moving along faster. [end recording]

[Kuchin] The hopes of local Philistines that the boss will come and wake everyone up have been thwarted once again. Apart from general political elaborations, they had the chance to hear from the horse's mouth the news which, of course, has long since ceased to be news for all who are not simple-minded. Improvements in the Russian economic situation will not begin by this coming fall, as some political leaders have assured us in a fit of candor, but rather in two or three years.

Tatarstan Food Checks Practical, Not 'Political'

PM2206093392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 16 Jun 92 First Edition p 2

[Unnamed correspondent report: "New Money—Food Money—Has Appeared"]

[Text] From July food checks will be introduced in Tatarstan, replacing the unsatisfactory coupons and vouchers. As distinct from their predecessors, the food checks will be equivalent to money throughout the area of the republic rather than serving as a supplement, providing their holders with those foodstuffs which are sold at present in Tatarstan at fixed prices. All the inhabitants of the republic will very soon receive in addition to their wages three checks each with a face value of 100 rubles, while people over the age of 21 will receive two extra checks—for vodka.

A ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA correspondent was informed at the Republic of Tatarstan Cabinet of Ministers that this is a temporary measure to combat the cash shortage. If Gaydar's promises to stabilize cash circulation by the end of the summer are met, the food checks will peter out of their own accord, particularly as the republic government will after a certain time be freeing prices for foodstuffs. This must not be seen as a political act, as a preparatory stage to the introduction of its own currency. Republic of Tatarstan Deputy Prime Minister R. Muratov stated.

Tatarstan To Invest Export Earnings in Oil

OW2106192392 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1705 GMT 21 Jun 92

[From the 22 June "Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Tatarstan, one of Russia's most important oil-producing regions, plans to use hard currency export earnings to invest in its oil industry. Each year, the republic receives more than \$1 bn [billion] through export.

Tatar Vice Premier Ravil Muratov has informed INTERFAX that the republic's government is preparing to adopt a special program to increase export capabilities which "will raise hard currency revenues to \$5 bn in the near future." According to Mr. Muratov, Tatarstan expects very soon to receive investments in its petrochemical, automotive, military, and oil industries. The Tatar government prefers direct investment to credits and equipment purchases. Mr. Muratov said that western investors would receive shares in Tatar enterprises. Thus, for example, foreign firms could acquire 15-20% of the shares of the oil extraction industry, which is soon to be transformed into a joint stock company.

These foreign stockholders may also petition the government for the right to sell oil outside of Russia. Citibank has already shown interest in investing in Tatarstan.

Turkey To Deliver Textbooks to Tatar Schools

*LD2206214192 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
1848 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Kazan—Turkey will deliver 50,000 textbooks of the Turkish language for the Turkish classes in Tatarstan schools.

According to the report of the bulletin of the Tatarstan PUBLIC CENTER newspaper, president of the Turkish World Society, Professor Turan Yazgan [name as received] stated that starting from the next academic year three teachers of the Turkish language will start classes in the city of Naberezhnyye Chelny.

International Affairs

Kravchuk on Talks in France, Ties With Russia

MK1906114092 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 19 Jun 92 pp 1, 2

[Interview with President Leonid Kravchuk by NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA Paris correspondent Aleksandr Bangerskiy under the "Ukraine" rubric; date, place not given: "'We Will Not Discuss the Problem of the Crimea With Boris Yeltsin,' Leonid Kravchuk Said During an Exclusive Interview for NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA"]

[Text] [Bangerskiy] With what are you returning from France?

[Kravchuk] The most important thing is that President Mitterrand and I signed the first treaty between Ukraine and France. This treaty covers a very broad range of questions—ranging from politics and economics to ecology. I invited the French president to visit Ukraine and the invitation was accepted with thanks.

The second result of the trip was that we signed the Paris CSCE Charter. Thus Ukraine will now take part in resolving all questions pertaining to Europe, and not only Europe, on an equal footing with the other parties to the Helsinki conference.

I have had many meetings with prominent industrial capitalists and French businessmen. In this connection I would like to stress the following: When I visited Paris last September, I also had a lot of meetings, and many of the people with whom I spoke had no idea what Ukraine was; they thought it was part of Russia. I had to explain things and tell them about it. Today they are no longer asking such questions, but talking about what is being done, about cooperation plans. How the situation has changed in just nine months: from ignorance about Ukraine to active participation in joint projects. We have opened a Ukrainian trade center in Paris. Ten joint ventures are already at work. We have also reached agreement with France's National Council of Employers for a large delegation of French businessmen to come to Ukraine shortly to study a whole series of questions of economic cooperation between our two countries on the spot.

[Bangerskiy] In what areas will you be cooperating with France?

[Kravchuk] Our cooperation embraces virtually all branches of the economy. But the main area is cooperation between small and medium enterprises. France is interested in agricultural processing, aircraft and missile construction, and problems of conversion as a whole: Some 30 to 35 percent of the former Union's machine building and defense potential is concentrated in Ukraine. We are a European leader in terms of most natural resources, barring oil, gas, and timber, which Ukraine lacks. With its powerful technical base and cadres Ukraine could in conjunction with foreign capital

rapidly adapt its enterprises to produce goods not only for the domestic market, but also for sale in other countries, including the republics of the former Union.

I think that the states of the former Union will have a food problem for a long time to come, and Ukraine with its powerful agriculture possibilities—the best land in Europe—and its wealth of experience could rapidly organize the production of food for export: There are a host of prospects here for foreign capital investment.

There is not only commercial, but also political interest in cooperating with us. I spoke about this with President Mitterrand, Prime Minister Beregovoy, and other French interlocutors: A new Europe is impossible without such a major European state as Ukraine.

[Bangerskiy] One World Bank expert thinks that what is happening in Ukraine cannot be called reform. Citing them, the FINANCIAL TIMES writes that Western investors are in no hurry to invest money in the Ukrainian economy since they are not happy about the way reform is going.

[Kravchuk] The well-known French economist Lionel Stoleru, who was France's state secretary for planning, and is now my adviser, holds a different view. He thinks that reforms in Ukraine are proceeding systematically. As for the World Bank spokesman, he spent only a few days in Ukraine and subsequently expressed two opposing views, which is quite strange. Whatever an expert's level of competence, a few days is not long enough to form an objective opinion of a vast country the size of France.

Certainly, we are not happy about the speed of reform. But where is it going quickly? In other states, perhaps? As far as I know, that is not the case.

[Bangerskiy] It is claimed that reforms are going slowly because Communists are in power in Ukraine.

[Kravchuk] That is a lie. There are many people at both central and local level that have no links with the Communist Party. I have said repeatedly that former Communists should not all be treated alike: There are those among them who can be of use to Ukraine. And there are also people who have never been members of the party, but who are doing Ukraine harm.

The claims that nothing is being done in Ukraine are due to the fact that we have very few opportunities to tell the world community and businessmen in other states about the processes taking place in Ukraine. Let's be objective and frank: It is still mainly Moscow that reports about Ukraine. Information filters through Russia—and not a lot gets there anyway. Very little is heard about Kiev abroad, and what little there is is very low-key: We have no powerful television or radio system, and virtually no representatives abroad. Things are different for Russia: Things that used to belong to the Union have transferred

to Russia and are working for Russia. That is why there is no real objective information about the economic situation in Ukraine.

[Bangerskiy] Perhaps the lack of information is also due to the fact that you have switched to using the Ukrainian language? Isn't Russification being replaced by Ukrainization?

[Kravchuk] There was a time when the Ukrainian language was a "second-class language." Many Ukrainians, particularly in the large cities, cannot speak it. In many parts of our country kindergartens providing instruction in our native language have virtually disappeared. The situation must now be rectified. Not to the detriment of other languages, nor by encroaching on other peoples' national culture. We must be absolutely scrupulous about this. Seeing that some regions have begun to take a sharp view of the language problem of late, we on the Supreme Soviet decided that areas inhabited by a group or majority of certain other peoples should choose the language which they consider should be the major language. Previously we adopted a language law which stipulated that Russian is the language for interethnic communication. We have bitter experience: Attempts to impose forcibly a language or ideology are always unsuccessful. Only free choice and persuasion win the day.

[Bangerskiy] You have mentioned nonindigenous nationalities. But the Tatars, for instance, are the indigenous inhabitants of the Crimea. The treaty that you signed recently with Turkey says that Tatars will be aided in returning to their historical homeland. Can Ukraine be expected in the near future to take any new decisive steps, in particular, to recognize the Crimean Tatars' mejlis?

[Kravchuk] I have said and still do say that the mejlis should occupy a broader place in the Crimean Supreme Soviet. I am in favor of a bicameral structure for the Crimean Supreme Soviet, although regrettably this idea does not have very many supporters there. The Crimean Tatars could also find their niche in the second chamber in resolving political, economic, social, and cultural problems. But the sentence in the treaty with Turkey does not mean that all Tatars will come to the Crimea. It is a question of those who were deported. The Crimea is their historical homeland and they are entitled to go back there. But I want to stress once again that this does not apply to all Crimean Tatars, particularly those living in Turkey.

[Bangerskiy] But how is the Crimean problem being resolved as a whole? What is your opinion of the Russian Supreme Soviet's decision to rule Crimea's transfer to Ukraine invalid?

[Kravchuk] The Crimean problem is a problem that concerns Ukraine and Crimea alone. It is not a problem for any other state; it is not Russia's problem. I think that the Russian parliament acted not only rashly but also incorrectly, politically speaking. Legally it acted ultra vires, and internationally it was even in breach of the

Helsinki agreements, because the latter state that such matters are settled solely by agreement between two sides. Yet the Russian Supreme Soviet adopted its decision on a unilateral basis. Its arguments do not accord with historical fact. During the current highly complex period that our two peoples are going through, after living in friendship for centuries, any attempt to exacerbate this problem (this is deliberate, moreover) heralds a worsening of relations between Ukraine and Russia. I am alarmed that acute questions are being taken at random from the overall context of relations between our countries and attention focused on them so as to worsen our relations as a whole.

[Bangerskiy] You said that some people are doing this deliberately. Who? Who wants to do this?

[Kravchuk] Relations are being exacerbated by both Russian national patriots and Ukrainian nationalists. We must not allow these extremists and national chauvinists to influence policy now because, in conditions of general crisis, any imprecise or deliberate action may have grave consequences.

Russia only needs to take one step toward Ukraine—to recognize it as an equal state. Not as part of Russia, but as an equal partner. It should pursue the same kind of policy toward Ukraine as it does toward France, Germany, or Britain. Then there would be no difficult issues between Russia and Ukraine.

[Bangerskiy] When it was announced that Ukraine was pulling out of the ruble zone, Yeltsin said that Russia would be forced to create a real border with Ukraine under guard. What can you say about that?

[Kravchuk] The problem of our pulling out of the ruble zone is a real one. In order to carry out reform we must create our own currency. We are now preparing to do this, making civilized preparations so that neither Ukraine nor Russia will suffer as a result. Talks are under way, documents have been formulated. As for protecting borders, Russia is entitled to do that. Today corrupt mafia structures are removing tremendous amounts of valuables from Russia—and not only via Ukraine. National wealth is also being taken out of Ukraine. Order must be restored here. We would like Russia and Ukraine to have the kind of relations that exist between the United States and Canada—that's our ideal scenario. But Russia must want this as well as Ukraine.

[Bangerskiy] Are relations within the CIS not ideal for you?

[Kravchuk] We see the CIS as a structure which may still play an important role, but, in order for that to happen, everyone in the CIS must be equal and no state must try to dictate policy there. If that happens and if there are mechanisms for implementing the decisions that are adopted, which are even capable of forcing these decisions to be implemented within the CIS framework—some kind of arbitration service, say—then something

will come of it. Yet today decisions are being adopted and no one is implementing them: What is the CIS' function? It is only compromising itself. There are attempts to make it look as though Ukraine wants to break up the CIS. Quite the contrary, we want this structure to work. If it does not work, it is unnecessary. And it is not working today. The peoples must be told the truth so that the CIS is not a cover for one state to implement its policy, one diktat. So as to ensure that there are equitable relations. Otherwise this structure cannot exist.

[Bangerskiy] Are you due to meet Yeltsin 23 June in Dagomys? How will you discuss the problem of the Crimea?

[Kravchuk] We will not discuss the problem of the Crimea with Boris Yeltsin. This problem relates purely to Ukraine and the Crimea itself. We already have an accord with the Crimean Supreme Soviet to formulate agreements between the Crimean Supreme Soviet and the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, and parliamentary commissions are at work. This is our problem.

Flow of Russian Oil for Export Cut by 25%

LD2006124692 Moscow *TeleRadiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network* in Russian 1100 GMT 20 Jun 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Ukraine has made a 25% cut in the flow of Russian oil for export through the Druzhba pipeline to Hungary and Czechoslovakia. This has been done with the aim of forcing Russia to repay a debt of 140 million rubles and \$5.5 million for transit.

National Affairs

Meeting With Crimean Parliamentarians Opens

LD2206192792 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service* in Russian 1625 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By Anatoliy Grigoryev, UKRINFORM correspondent, for TASS]

[Text] Kiev, 22 June—A joint session of the presidiums of the Supreme Soviets of Ukraine and the Republic of the Crimea opened here today. Taking part in it are members of the working group on matters of demarcating powers between bodies of state power of Ukraine and the Republic of the Crimea, representatives of rayon and town soviets of people's deputies of the Republic of the Crimea, and a number of people's deputies of Ukraine and the Republic of the Crimea.

Opening the session, Ukraine Supreme Soviet Chairman Ivan Plyushch noted that it is a continuation of a similar meeting that took place in the Crimea. We are now living in complex and dynamic times, he said. Aggravations are intensifying and the economic situation is worsening.

This cannot promote stabilization in the political situation, neither in Ukraine nor in other states.

During the previous meeting, said Ivan Plyushch, we agreed to continue work on a law regulating mutual relations between Ukraine and the Republic of the Crimea so as to introduce changes and additions to it. They have to envision satisfying more fully the economic, cultural, and social needs of a region such as the Republic of the Crimea. In turn, representatives of the Crimea will look anew at documents adopted by them that contradict Ukraine's constitution and existing legislation. Accord was also reached on the fact that Ukraine and the Crimea do not need experts from other states, European, or international organizations.

Vasiliy Durdinets, first deputy chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Soviet, delivered a report at the session. Crimean Supreme Soviet Chairman Nikolay Bagrov addressed those present. The participants then began a clause-by-clause discussion of the draft law.

It is proposed that a joint statement will be made on the results of the meeting.

Citizenship, Property Accord

LD2206211292 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 1917 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Anatoliy Grigoryev]

[Text] Kiev June 22 TASS—Presidiums of Ukrainian and Crimean parliaments held their joint session on Monday [22 June]. The two sides managed to find a compromise on provisions, regulating citizenship and property. Observers believe if laws on division of authorities between Ukrainian and Crimean state organs of power are adopted, they will help avoid the referendum on Crimean independence. "We must do everything to spread the compromise (achieved on Monday) on our respective parliaments", Ukrainian Parliament Speaker Ivan Plyushch told reporters at a news conference.

Kravchuk Issues Order on Border Control Points

LD2206223192 Moscow *Mayak Radio Network* in Russian 1830 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk issued an instruction on a state program to develop a network of control points on the Ukrainian state border. The Cabinet of Ministers has been given three months to develop the program in order to create the necessary conditions for international passage over the border of the republic.

Demonstrators Demand Government's Resignation

LD2206154292 Kiev *UKRINFORM in Russian* 1943 GMT 16 Jun 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent A. Litvinov]

[Text] Kiev, 16 Jun (UKRINFORM)—The square outside the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet building looked unusually colorful today. Hundreds of people carrying state flags and many banners gathered here from various oblasts of the republic to communicate their demands to deputies. Among the pickets are Donbass miners who are demanding that the Donbass be granted the status of a free economic zone, that taxes collected in that area be channeled into its economic stabilization, and also that the government of the republic resign.

Rukh representatives are resolutely opposed to the "the domination of the economy by the Communist Party mafia" and excessively high prices while favoring the introduction of our own currency in the very near future. They demand protection for children, who are the future of the nation, and that Ukrainian officers be brought home from other countries of the Commonwealth. They insist on the resignation of the present Cabinet of Ministers and on the establishment of a government of national confidence.

On the other hand there is one group which supports Vitold Fokin. "Deputies! Let the government get on with its work. We need a strong economy and not a Ukraine in ruins," they demand.

While the sea of people flooded the streets, those inside the parliament hall honored the memory of those who died in the Sukhodolskaya Vostochnaya mine with a minute's silence and then got down to discussing the agenda in a leisurely manner. They decided that they would first have a second reading of the draft law on Ukraine's nature reserves. The document did not give rise to any particular arguments and was adopted. After this the deputies made changes in the membership of several standing commissions. They adopted the draft law on changes and additions to the law on enterprises on the first reading and got down to discussing the second reading of the draft law "on associations of citizens in Ukraine".

During the break Ivan Plyushch, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, and First Vice Premier Konstantin Masik met with the representatives from the Donbass who are picketing the parliament building. So far there are no reports on the results of their talks.

Former Communist Party Head on PRAVDA Report

LD2106166492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1135 GMT 19 Jun 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Anatoliy Grigoryev for TASS]

[Text] Kiev June 19 TASS—Former Communist Party leader of Ukraine Stanislav Gurenko said nobody had discussed with him the proposal to represent the Communist Party of the Soviet Union at the forthcoming court hearings. Gurenko made this comment in connection with an appeal to the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation by members of the CPSU Central

Committee, published by PRAVDA on June 18, where he was named among candidates.

"I believe that we need, primarily, to defend the interests of the Communist Party of Ukraine," he told the newspaper PRAVDA. "Such is my position. When there is the Communist Party of Ukraine, then the solution of other problems will become clear. We have our own problems to deal with now. Particularly, the illegal decision by the Presidium of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet to ban the Communist Party of Ukraine has not been cancelled. There is no clarity until today about the case of the so-called 'support of the coup by the leadership of the Communist Party of Ukraine'. We need to sort out these questions in the first place," Gurenko said.

Supreme Soviet on Orthodox Church Council

LD2206210592 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program
Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] The Ukraine Supreme Soviet Presidium has issued a statement in connection with the holding of a council of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church [UOC] in Kharkov under the leadership of Metropolitan Nykodym of Kharkov and Bohodukhov, and the election of the new primate of the UOC. This happened with the support of the Moscow patriarchy and has led to disputes and conflicting situations in the UOC.

The statement reads that the Ukrainian state does not interfere in the affairs of the church, but neither does it permit the church to act in violation of the statute of any religious association which has been registered in accordance with current legislation in Ukraine. After studying the lawfulness of the Kharkov Council of the UOC, the Council for Religious Affairs under the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has determined that it was held in violation of the statute of the UOC and therefore its decisions cannot be recognized.

The Ukraine Supreme Soviet Presidium calls on the clergy and laymen of the UOC to display consideration and not to complicate the already tense religious situation in Ukraine.

Defense Ministry Group Begins First Private Work

LD2306043192 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service
in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Specialists from the Odessa branch of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry's Planning Institute have started work on their first private order. It came from a Yevpatoriya children's sanatorium. The order is to design a medical diagnostic center and wards for the sanatorium, which will be equipped with the most modern medical services.

Servicemen Train for Work Outside Armed Forces

LD2206071792 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program
Network in Ukrainian 1858 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] New cadres of independent Ukraine: At the moment in Kiev students are taking final examinations

in courses, the first in Ukraine, for the social adaptation of officers. After teaching according to methods of the best official educational institutions in the world—the London School of Business, in particular—former officers have become managers, lecturers, and experts in public relations [preceding two words in English], that is, specialists in the sphere of public relations. In today's conditions of instability, strikes, and picketing, such specialists [words indistinct] are essential in enterprises, in commercial structures, and in state establishments. The leaders of enterprises are thus given a splendid possibility of choice—200 specialists with higher education, robust, conscientious, with solid training and experience in working with people.

The Fund for the Social Adaptation of Servicemen and the Kiev Temp Inter-Sectoral Scientific and Technical Center organized the courses.

Crimean Tatars Form Military Construction Unit

*LD2206105492 Kiev UKRINFORM in Russian
1943 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[By Lev Riabchikov; "Only Crimean Tatars in the Company"—UKRINFORM headline]

[Text] [no dateline as received] Giving their own interpretation of the opportunity to fulfill alternative service which has been granted to young people, the Crimean Tatars have attempted to set up national armed units. A company of military engineers consisting of conscripts of Crimean Tatar nationality has been formed in Bakhchisaray Rayon.

Several dozen young men are now building barracks for themselves under the command of an experienced military man. The Majlis is proposing to use them in the future as a work force to build housing for Crimean Tatar families returning to the peninsula. They are also expected to carry out drills.

The Crimean Council of Ministers has demanded that the regiment be disbanded and the Republic's Military Commissariat has given its commander an official warning that the establishment of this unit is illegal. All the young men in the unit will be called up for a fixed period of military service in accordance with Ukraine's law on universal military service. It is possible that many of them will be sent to the military construction detachment in Simferopol, which Ukraine's minister of defense has ordered to be used to build houses for Crimean Tatars.

Byelarus**Presidium Approves Forces Treaty, Protocols***LD2206193292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1413 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[By BELTA correspondent Vladimir Glod for TASS]

[Text] Minsk, 22 Jun—Byelarus is ready to fulfill all the obligations arising from the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe as soon as it comes into force. This is the keynote of a letter sent today on behalf of Byelarusian Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich to all countries participating in the Treaty.

A Byelarusian Supreme Soviet Presidium decision served as grounds for the message. Presidium members met in a special sitting late on 20 June and approved the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe and protocols to it. The agreement on the principles of and procedure for applying the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe and the protocols to it, signed on 15 May 1992 in Tashkent, were approved at the same time.

A Byelarusian parliament press service representative told BELTA that the Presidium, in adopting the decision to approve the Treaty, proceeded from the fact that the question of ratification of these documents would be examined at the next session of the Republic's Supreme Soviet.

Russia To Finance Republic's Defense Industry*OW1906130292 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1037 GMT 19 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to an agreement reached in Minsk during the visit of a delegation of the Russian Defence Ministry, led by Deputy-Chief of the General Staff Gennadiy Gichkin, Russia will finance the defence enterprises of Byelarus. A high-ranking Russian diplomat who preferred to remain anonymous said that this involves a sum exceeding 5.5 billion rubles. The Russian government will repay all its debts to the Byelarusian arms enterprises. Gichkin also said that a bilateral agreement on military cooperation is being drafted.

As a result of conversion, the staff of the arms-industry complex was cut down by about 20,000. Now those dismissed will have a chance to work in their field.

Armed Forces To Switch to Byelarusian Language*LD2206224492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1655 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[By BELTA correspondent Valentina Menshikova for TASS]

[Text] Minsk, 22 Jun—The collegium of the Byelarus Ministry of Defense today ratified a program of study and gradual transition of the Armed Forces to the state language. In accordance with the law on languages, Byelarusian has the status of the state language; however, that document, which was passed over a year ago, does not regulate its usage in the army. Since then the situation has changed. The republic is creating its own armed forces, and the draft law on these provides for the army gradually to transfer to the state language. It will take at least six years for the switch to the use of the state language in the Byelarus Armed Forces to be fully completed.

Rubles To Circulate With National Bank Notes*LD2206103292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0920 GMT 19 Jun 92*

[By BELTA correspondent Svetlana Kalinkina]

[Text] Minsk, 19 Jun (TASS)—A BELTA correspondent has been told by Gennadiy Melnik, an administration head at Byelarus's trade ministry, that no restrictions of any sort on the ruble will be introduced within the republic. It was previously expected that a list of goods that would only be sold for bank notes of the National Bank would be drawn up, but it has now been decided not to opt for any restrictive measures at all. The point is that the introduction of the national bank note alongside the usual ruble has considerably relieved the social tension stemming from the shortage of money in circulation.

Incidentally, figures show that the proportion of national bank notes in the takings of the republic's trade outlets hovers around the 30 percent mark. So the introduction of restrictions affecting the ruble may lead once more to a chronic shortage of money in circulation.

Country 'Not Threatened by Social Explosions'*LD2106182792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0956 GMT 20 Jun 92*

[By BELTA correspondent Valentina Menshikova]

[Text] Minsk, June 20 TASS—"Byelarus is not threatened by social explosions," the First Vice-Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic, Vyacheslav Kuznetsov said during a meeting with the Directors' Corps of Enterprises Carrying out Conversion. According to him, such an optimistic prognosis is based on the fact that the parliament took appropriate measures to provide social protection to the population at a right time. They include the law governing income indexation of the population and the minimum wages, the government's "consumer's basket" bill and significant additional payments to victims of the Chernobyl nuclear reactor explosion disaster.

The stability in the society is also supported by a rational financial policy, Vyacheslav Kuznetsov emphasised.

Along with currently circulating currency in the republic it has introduced its own bank-notes worth 50 billion rubles. In addition to it the Byelarusian leadership has reached an accord regarding mutual payments with governments of some members of the CIS. The republic will begin this financial operation with Russia, Moldova, Uzbekistan and Ukraine from 1 July.

The parliamentarian also informed that from 1 July the Government of Byelarus is introducing payment through bills. In order to settle accounts with a partner an enterprise will have to get a solvency certificate from a bank. That is to say, enterprises will get bank guarantees for payments on their agreements.

Moldova

Ministry Protests Russian 'Intervention'

LD2206161692 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1543 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Chisinau, June 22 TASS—The Moldovan Foreign Ministry has protested to Moscow against its alleged military intervention in the break-away Dniester region, demanding explanations from the Russian Foreign Ministry.

"The ministry is greatly concerned about illegal actions by military units of Russia's 14th Army, which on June 20 with the help of tanks occupied the city of Tighina (Bendery) and in this connection protests resolutely and insists that Russian authorities take immediate measures to return hardware and personnel to the barracks," the Moldovan ministry's statement says.

The Moldovan ministry assured that Moldovan law-enforcement forces would not use military force against civilians or fight regular army units. The incident involving attacks of the military is a monstrous provocation, it said.

Moldova insisted that the Russian side explain its actions and called for the beginning of talks on the withdrawal of Russian troops from the republic.

[Moscow *ITAR-TASS* World Service in Russian at 1537 GMT on 22 June carries an identical report but replaces the last paragraph with the following: "The Moldovan Foreign Ministry called on the Russian side to hold talks on the 14th Army's urgent withdrawal from the republic's territory."]

Defense Minister Cited on Actions in Bendery

LD2206162892 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service*
in Russian 1528 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By Valeriy Demidetskiy, *ITAR-TASS* correspondent]

[Text] Chisinau, 22 Jun—Moldovan Defense Minister General Ion Costas, stated that the Moldovan National Army did not storm Bendery as has been reported by some mass media. Speaking to parliamentary deputies

today, he stressed that units of the Army had entered the town at the request of the minister of internal affairs and a corresponding decision taken by the highest leaders. This was done after formations of the Dniester Region Guard, with the support of armored vehicles of the Russian 14th Army, attacked Special Designation Police Units who had come to the rescue of the town's besieged police department. The minister acknowledged that at the very beginning of the Bendery conflict the 14th Army command had observed neutrality. Then, however, Russian servicemen, together with Cossacks and Guardsmen, moved against legitimate subunits of Moldova.

According to the general, construction of fortifications is now underway around Bendery since there are fears of attacks from the direction of Tiraspol. He stressed that the number of casualties among the civilians and armed formations of the Dniester region has been placed too high. As for the Moldovan Armed Forces, 11 have died in the battles for Bendery and 32 people have been wounded, according to Ion Costas.

A number of deputies blamed the minister for the fact that the Army had been inadequately prepared for engaging in combat. Ion Costas stressed that "everything, possible and impossible, is being done" to enhance the combat effectiveness of the Army. Nonetheless, according to Costas, there are difficulties with supplies and technical provision; the combat proficiency of the personnel is not of the necessary standard. People's Front Deputy Olga Ozhoga replied to this that "in order to raise the soldiers' proficiency, they need to be used less often for building dachas for the staff of the Army General Staff."

Chisinau Claims Russians Mislead Public Opinion

AU2206184092 Bucharest *ROMPRES in English*
1729 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Chisinau, *ROMPRES*, 22/6/1992—In reference to the events in Tighina [Bendery] on June 19, the "leaders" from Tiraspol and certain mass media in Russia attempt to mislead world public opinion by stating that the order-keeping force of the Republic of Moldova would have been the ones that violated the resolutions of the parliament of the Republic of Moldova on ceasefire and disengagement of the conflicting forces, stated the chairman of the Mass Media Commission of the Moldovan parliament, Valeriu Matei, to the MOLDOVA PRES correspondent. As a matter of fact, the guardsmen at Tighina started a violent attack on June 19 at 17.30 on the police base in the town, trying to take full control of it and of that Moldovan settlement. In answer to the demands for help come from the encircled policemen, the order-keeping forces of the Republic of Moldova entered the town of Tighina to reset order and guarantee the observance of the accords signed during the session of the Conciliation Commission and of the Joint Commission.

The misinformation of public opinion by the Russian mass media has raised big obstacles to translating into fact the decisions of compromise made by the parliament of the Republic of Moldova and the accords signed by the foreign ministries of the Republic of Moldova, Russia, Romania and Ukraine, stated Mr. Valeriu Matei.

Snegur Says 14th Army Occupies Eastern Regions

*LD2206184692 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya
Ostankino Television First Program Network
in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Video report by Chisinau correspondent M. Sokirke on the Moldovan Supreme Soviet session in Chisinau on 22 June; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The tragic events in Bendery compelled deputies to convene urgently a (?main) meeting of parliament to discuss the situation that has arisen.

President Mircea Snegur delivered a report in which he described the situation as most complex and stressed—and I quote almost verbatim—that the 14th Army's flagrant intervention and the statements by Yeltsin and Rutskoy are unprecedented. This again confirms that Russia is laying claim to the role of gendarme within the CIS. The assertions of Russia's official authorities and some mass media that Bendery was attacked by Moldovan tanks are, in Mircea Snegur's words, blatant disinformation as Moldova currently does not possess a single tank. He also proposed recording two points in the decision of parliament on this problem: that eastern regions are occupied by the 14th Army and that Russia has unleashed an undeclared war against Moldova.

Fighting continues in Bendery and Cosnita, Cocieri, and other conflict zones. The assertion that Bendery has been occupied by guards of the 14th Army bears no relation to the truth. In fact, there is a dyarchy there, and people continue to die.

Differing Accounts Given of Bendery Hostilities

*OW2206193892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1900 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In Bendery, hostilities between the armed detachments of Moldova and the Dniester republic resumed Monday [22 June] afternoon. An assistant to the commander of the 14th Russian Army, Aleksandr Baranov said that the attack was mounted by Moldovan police from the building of the police commissariat downtown, surrounded by Dniester guards. From the outskirts of the city, controlled by special Moldovan police, intensive fire was opened on the city with the use of all types of weapons. In Bendery proper, there are Moldovan marksmen. Baranov said that in the city "people have been dying every minute".

In turn, Chisinau claims that the attack was started by the Dniester guards in a bid to force Moldovan police out of Bendery.

Baranov said that as a result of the explosion of the munitions depot of an engineering battalion of the 14th Army, taken over by Dniester, 26 people died. The depot was blown up by a group of saboteurs. The incident occurred in the village of Parkany, the Slobodzeya district, on the left bank of the Dniester.

Moldovan Interior Minister Konstantin Antoch told a session of parliament Monday that the situation in the Dniester region continues to deteriorate. He pointed out that Dniester guardsmen supported by the Russian 14th Army launched an attack Monday against the village of Varnitsa (near Bendery), controlled by Moldovan police units. The attack was repulsed. According to the Moldovan Interior Ministry, armed units of the Dniester region are preparing a large-scale offensive to take back Bendery and surrounding towns from the Moldovan police.

A spokesman for the press-center of Moldova's Defence Ministry has told IF [INTERFAX] that on Monday tanks and armored vehicles of the 14th Army under Russian jurisdiction attacked the positions of Moldovan police in the area of Bendery. He said that the fighting was going on in the city itself. The village of Cosnita has come under the worst fire from Moldovan forces. There have been casualties. The press-center official said that the roar of the cannonade was heard in Chisinau.

Asked whether allegations by some reporters that the 14th Army was attacking the right bank of the Dniester and even marching on Chisinau the Moldovan Defence Ministry official said that armored vehicles of the 14th Army were involved in the fighting in the area of Bendery.

IF has failed to contact the headquarters of the 14th Army. The telephone line with Tiraspol is dead.

Defense Ministry Updates 22 Jun Situation

*OW2306114092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1030 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Exchanges of fire continued last night in the Trans-Dniester conflict zone. According to the press center of the Moldovan Defence Ministry, though a cease-fire agreement came into force at 22:00 local time Monday [22 June] it was violated many times by Trans-Dniester home guards. Alazan rockets, firearms and mortars were used in Cocieri direction till 5:00 in the morning on Tuesday. A total of 2,000 mortars and shells were shot during Monday at Cocieri community controlled by the Moldovan police and army. Half of the village was destroyed. The number of victims is being specified.

According to the Moldovan Defence Ministry, Bendery also came under tank and artillery fire. A press center spokesman said that at 7:00 in the morning three quarters of the town were controlled by Trans-Dniester home guards.

Meanwhile, the press service of the Moldovan government reports that a cease-fire agreement was reached on Monday night by the leadership of Moldova and the Trans-Dniester republic "to guarantee conditions for finding a compromise on the issue."

According to a spokesman for the Russian Defence Ministry, at 6:30 Moscow time on Tuesday the cease-fire was generally observed, still separate exchanges of fire in the conflict zone continue.

14th Army Deputy Commander on Situation, Moves

PM2206213592 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jun 92 p 1

[Interview with Colonel A. Baranov, deputy commander of 14th Army, by correspondent S. Bogdanov, on 22 June; place not given; "Meanwhile"]

[Text] Yesterday our correspondent, S. Bogdanov, telephoned Colonel A. Baranov, deputy commander of the 14th Army:

[Bogdanov] What losses have you suffered?

[Baranov] On the first day of fighting a warrant officer and a soldier were killed. We have two men wounded, and two officers and two warrant officers are missing. More than 200 of the civilian population have been killed and around 300 wounded.

[Bogdanov] How did the 14th Army act 20 June?

[Baranov] After the offensive started the Army's Military Council immediately sent a statement to the Moldovan Government condemning this inhuman act. Army units and subunits took up combat positions to protect military camps and servicemen's families. We were forced to use our weapons in self-defense.

[Bogdanov] Are you currently in contact with the Moldovan Government?

[Baranov] Yes, although it is very hard to conduct talks with them. The people in charge in Moldova are incapable of compromise. You get the impression that the former party workers in power in the republic can see only one way to solve the problem: With the use of force.

[Bogdanov] Do you have any sense of support from Russia?

[Baranov] Yeltsin's decree transferring our Army to Russian jurisdiction raised the morale of the officers and men. The point is not that we are now earning 50 percent more, it is that we have not been left to the whim of fate.

[Bogdanov] How do your officers assess the Moldovan leadership's actions?

[Baranov] They are criminal.

[Bogdanov] In what circumstances are the personnel now finding themselves?

[Baranov] All units have been placed on full combat alert. The men have weapons in their hands constantly. Nobody should have any doubt that the Army personnel will carry out the Russian Government's order to protect our fellow countrymen. Though I hope that the Moldovan leadership has enough common sense to resist the temptation of testing our mettle, if the 14th Army does take part in the conflict, this will be the weightiest argument for ending the extremes, which are now into their fourth month.

Army MiGs Bomb Parkany; Fighting Continues

LD2206192192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1830 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] ITAR-TASS reports that the situation in Bendery deteriorated dramatically as evening approached today. Moldovan People's Deputy Grigoriy Valovoy reported by telephone that Moldovan National Army MiG-29s dropped bombs on the Bulgarian-populated village of Parkany, on the left bank of the Dniester, not far from Bendery. Moldovan MiGs also are loitering over downtown Bendery, where the town executive committee is located. The town is being bombarded by large-calibre howitzers from the direction of Kaushany Rayon. Heavy fighting is under way downtown and on its outskirts. A large group of correspondents, including foreign reporters, are in the basement of the executive committee building along with the town leadership and Moldovan people's deputies.

Details of Attack

LD2206201592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1940 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By unidentified ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Bendery, 22 Jun—The Moldovan Armed Forces used aircraft against the unsubjugated population of the Dniester region at 1940 today. Three MiG-29s bombarded bridges across the Dniester River to cut off Bendery from the rest of the Dniester region. This was reported today by the press centre of the president and the government of the Dniester region. One of the bombs hit a house in Parkany village, killing the family living there.

Moldovan Armed Forces military equipment and personnel continue to gather around Varnitsa, Khadzhimus, and Prityagaylovka. The press center reports that five battalions are participating in the attack on Bendery. Prisoners have been freed from the Bendery prison and given weapons to participate in military actions against

the town's population. The press center reports that many attackers are drunk and that looters are on the rampage.

The same source also reports that six people have been killed and 20 wounded in Dubossary as a result of an attack in which all types of weapons were used.

Russian Ministry Reports Raid

LD2306104192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] INTERFAX, citing information received at the Russian Defense Ministry, reports that last night two Moldovan MiG-29s carried out a raid in the region of the village of Parkany near Bendery and bombed a bridge over the Dniester River. The aim was not achieved—the bridge survived. No information on casualties has reached the Russian Defense Ministry. Another MiG-29 carried out a reconnaissance flight over a military unit in the region of Bendery. The Moldovan Defense Ministry could neither confirm nor deny the information on the MiG's raid on the bridge in the region of Bendery.

Minister Denies Bombing

LD2306124192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Moldovan Defense Minister Ion Costas rejected reports from Tiraspol and carried by some media outlets that MiG-29s of the Moldovan National Army bombed the village of Parkany, near Bendery, according to MOLDOVA-PRES. The minister said that the nature of Bendery and its environs excludes aerial combat operations without inflicting serious damage on all nearby villages.

Air Surveillance Confirmed

LD2306133792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1327 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau, June 23 TASS—Moldovan airforce jets did fly over the city of Bendery on Monday [22 June], but they did not bomb either the city or the nearby villages, a spokesman for the Moldovan Defence Ministry said on the national radio on Tuesday.

Two MiG-29 fighters with a military load aboard flew over the region on a surveillance mission and detected units of Dniester guardsmen and military hardware between Tiraspol and Bendery, Viorel Chibotaru said. Fierce clashes were going on in the area at the moment and explosions of shells could have been mistaken for air bombardment, he added.

Romanian Officers Sent To Act as Observers

PM2206184992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Viktor Litovkin report: "14th Army Protects Its Families and Military Camps"]

[Text] According to a report from the Russian Ministry of Defense press center, shelling of the territory of the 14th Army's military camps continued Sunday [21 June] evening and Monday morning.

In Bendery, a rocket brigade depot was shelled and combat vehicles were damaged. A Moldovan Army raiding party carried out attacks on the depot of a combat engineer training battalion, officers of which have refused to submit to 14th Army command and have declared themselves a military subunit of the Dniester Republic. A warehouse on the territory of the depot containing fuel and lubricants was set on fire; warehouse buildings and military equipment were damaged, and 20 servicemen were wounded.

After tanks containing gasoline, oil, and other materials exploded, the exchange of fire between the sappers and their attackers lasted a further two hours.

The editors have learned that in Bucharest the Russian military attache has been informed of Romania's concern over the events in the Dniester region. Romania's military minister told journalists that his country is not interfering in the conflict in the neighboring country, but at the request of the Moldovan leadership had sent 64 officers there as observers, together with 20 armored personnel carriers, 40 82-mm mortars, and about 30 120-mm mortars.

We contacted 14th Army Headquarters by telephone. Assistant Commander Colonel Aleksandr Baranov came on the line. He said that the Army is not interfering in the conflict and is maintaining neutrality, but as is well known, a statement from the Army's Military Council demands an immediate cease-fire and full compliance with the decisions of the Moldovan Supreme Soviet's recently held eighth session, and warns that if the territory of military units continues to be shelled and subjected to attacks, the Army will answer fire with fire.

"Our officers now are protecting their camps and their families," the colonel said, "the bombardment from the right bank is virtually nonstop. Women and children and soldiers exempt from military duty are in shelters."

Romania Denies Planning To Send Pilots

PM2306095992 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jun 92 p 3

[Untitled item from "Only the Facts" column of ITAR-TASS reports]

[Text] The Romanian Defense Ministry has repudiated a report in the newspaper TRUDOVAYA TIRASPOL

that Romania intends to send a group of military airmen to Moldova to pilot MiG-29 fighters and MI-24 helicopters. The report also noted that "it is impossible to rule out nighttime flights by unmarked Romanian military aircraft" into the Dniester conflict zone.

Romanians Allegedly Involved in Conflict

*LD2306105592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0900 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[Text] According to our correspondent, Grigoriy Marakutsa, chairman of the Dniester Moldovan Republic Supreme Soviet, stated at a news conference at the Moscow soviet today that the leadership of the Republic will press for independence.

Marakutsa also cited information on direct Romanian involvement in the military conflict that has broken out in the town of Bendery. He said Dniester region guardsmen had managed to capture Romanian citizens and that a dead Romanian officer had been found. It was also reported at the news conference that Moldovan troops were today concentrating in areas inhabited by the Gagauz. Grigoriy Marakutsa stated his intention to appeal to the leaders of Ukraine and Russia to provide material, financial, and military support to the Dniester region.

New Mixed Commission To Draw Up Resolution

*OW2206194692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1900 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The parliament of Moldova discussed the situation in the area of the conflict in Dniester and decided to form a new mixed commission to draw up a resolution on the situation in that region.

Observers expect the resolution to say that as a matter of fact Moldova is in the state of war with Russia and that the tanks of the 14th Army have occupied Moldovan territory on the right bank of the Dniester.

Most members of parliament who worked in the previous conciliatory commission have refused to take seats on the new one. They believe that attempts at settling the dispute by peaceful means are doomed. The events in Bendery on June 19-21, where there have been violent clashes between armed detachments of Moldova and Dniester are evidence of that.

The new commission consists of two members of parliament from each faction.

Moldovan Leaders Agree To Dniester Cease-Fire

*LD2206202292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 2002 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dmitriy Dyakov]

[Text] Bucharest, 22 June—The Romanian president's press service issued a statement on 22 June announcing that Romanian head of state Ion Iliescu had a telephone conversation with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Moldovan President Mircea Snegur on the situation which has emerged in the Republic of Moldova. Agreement was reached during the conversation that the leaders of Russia and Moldova would give instructions for an immediate cease-fire in the conflict zone. It was agreed that during the forthcoming meeting in Istanbul between the heads of state of the Black Sea region, the presidents of Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, and Romania would examine issues of a peaceful settlement of the crisis in the Dniester region.

Cease-Fire Announced

*AU2206201292 Bucharest Radio Romania Network
in Romanian 1952 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Text] Esteemed listeners, our correspondents in Chisinau have just called us up to tell us very good news: According to the communique of the Interior Ministry of the Republic of Moldova, fire has ceased on all fronts at 2230.

Cease-Fire Violations Reported

*AU2306114692 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1106 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 23/6/1992—Despite the agreement achieved on Monday [22 June] evening between Romanian President Ion Iliescu, Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Moldovan President Mircea Snegur regarding a ceasefire in Tighina [Bendery] until Tuesday morning, both this agreement and the orders sent to the conflicting sides have been breached by the guardsmen.

According to the latest data supplied to the MOLDOVA PRES correspondent by the Moldovan Defense Ministry on Tuesday morning, "Alazan" missiles were fired during the night in Cocieri, Cosnita and Tighina. The fire lasted until 0500 A.M. and machine guns and mortars were also used.

Bendery 'in Ruins;' Casualties Reported

*LD2306075192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 0700 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[Text] The press center of the Dniester Moldovan Republic Government tells us that, according to reports from authorities in the town of Bendery, over 1,000 were killed or injured during the night of 22-23 June. The town is virtually in ruins and ablaze.

Thousands of refugees—mostly women, elderly people, and children—are moving in the direction of Ukraine. Vyacheslav Kovut, the head of the town administration who is in the executive committee building, stressed that armed formations have drawn back to their initial lines

following the accord between Ruts koy, Iliescu, and Snegur. The confrontation continues.

At this moment, a mourning service is beginning in Tiraspol for those killed in the town of Bendery. Funerals for 35 people will be held.

Casualties Reported

LD2306093492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0915 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau, 23 Jun—Despite a declared cease-fire, firing continued through the night in the Moldovan town of Bendery.

The contradictory reports on last night's casualties are being verified. Reports on the situation in Bendery from Chisinau and Tiraspol are contradictory: According to the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs press center, over the past 24 hours three people were killed and seven wounded in the town. Several buildings in the town have been burned and two tanks and several armored vehicles have been destroyed. The city police department is in the hands of Moldovan policemen despite several attacks.

The Dniester press center, quoting the Bendery city authorities, has reported that about 1,000 people have already died in the town. An ITAR-TASS correspondent was told by the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs that this figure did not correspond to reality. Refugees are leaving the town. According to reports from Tiraspol, fighting and shooting was taking place not only around Bendery but also around Dubossary, Grigoriopol, and other localities along the confrontation line.

More on Casualties

AU2306112792 Paris AFP in English 1107 GMT
23 Jun 92

[Report by Stephane Bentura]

[Text] Bendery, Moldova, June 23 (AFP)—Charred corpses littered the streets here Tuesday [23 June] after a night of heavy fighting, probably the fiercest since the conflict in east Moldova erupted, reportedly left more than 1,000 casualties. Thousands of refugees, mostly elderly residents and women and children, were meanwhile fleeing the city and heading for the border with Ukraine after about half of Bendery was destroyed in the fighting.

ITAR-TASS news agency monitored in Moscow quoted the press service of the self-declared separatist government of Trans-Dniester in eastern Moldova as saying that more than 1,000 people were killed or wounded in the fighting here.

While there were clearly many dead and wounded overnight, it appeared more likely to an AFP correspondent

in Bendery that the figure of 1,000 was an overall toll for the fighting of the past four days in the area.

Moldovan President Mircea Snegur, in remarks reported by INTERFAX news agency in Moscow, denied that there were more than 1,000 casualties during the night and Moldovan officials said the figure was in the low hundreds.

Dniestrian authorities here said they had agreed on a temporary ceasefire with Moldovan fighters to allow rescuers to collect bodies scattered around the city, many of them burned beyond recognition.

Fires continued to burn in the city and many buildings, street signs and vehicles were pock-marked with bullet holes, testifying to the intensity of the fighting during the night.

The radio in the Dniestrian "capital" Tiraspol reported earlier Tuesday that Moldovan forces had used two MiG-29 fighter-bombers to attack a bridge between Tiraspol and Bendery. A family living in the village of Parkani outside of Bendery was killed in the bombing, the radio said.

The streets of Bendery were deserted but there was continuous sniper fire and bursts of heavy automatic weapons fire could be heard approximately every 20 minutes.

Moldovan authorities in Bendery were holed up in an underground cave in the city center which appeared at least partly under the control of Dniestrian forces despite assertions to the contrary by Moldovan authorities in Chisinau.

Georgy Marakuts, the chairman of the Dniestrian parliament, told a news conference in Moscow however that Bendery was "totally occupied" by Moldovan forces who he claimed had levelled about 45 percent of the city.

Slavs in eastern Moldova oppose the Chisinau government's policies and fear discrimination as Moldova moves closer to reuniting with Romania.

The Moldovan parliament meanwhile approved a resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of the Russian 14th Army from the former Soviet republic and a peaceful solution to the conflict.

The parliament invited Dniestrian deputies to Chisinau to discuss the situation and Snegur said United Nations Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali had promised him that U.N. observers would be sent to Moldova soon.

Snegur also said he would be meeting Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk on Wednesday or Thursday in Istanbul where they will be attending the meeting of countries bordering the Black Sea.

Colonel Aleksandr Baranov, deputy commander of the Russian 14th Army, said in an interview with the daily

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA however that the Russian troops were "in a state of combat readiness."

"They have their weapons in hand. No one has any doubt that the personnel will carry out orders from the Russian Government to defend our compatriots," Baranov said.

Russian President Yeltsin warned Snegur, the Moldovan leader, on Sunday that Russian troops would be forced to "respond" if attacks against Russian speaking Slavs continued in Trans-Dniester.

Snegur Sends Message to UN Secretary General

LD2306083492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0800 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Menkes]

[Text] United Nations, June 23 TASS—Moldovan President Mircea Snegur's message, addressed to the United Nations secretary-general, about the developments in Moldova was circulated at the U.N. Headquarters on Monday [22 June].

The president views "the aggravation of the situation in the eastern part of the republic of Moldova" as a consequence of "violations of the ceasefire agreement" by the 14th Army which is "under Russia's jurisdiction".

The events of the recent days developed against the background of "the Moldovan parliament's large-scale activities aimed at bringing about a political settlement of the conflict," the message said.

Emphasising that the present development of events puts in jeopardy peace and stability in the conflict zone, Snegur qualifies the presence of the 14th Army on the republic's territory "as a destabilising element which directly makes for an escalation of the conflict".

Snegur did not make any specific request either to the U.N. secretary-general or the U.N. Security Council. In conclusion of the message, he only emphasised Moldova's determination "to use all means available to achieve a peaceful political settlement of the conflict".

Snegur on 'Offensive'; UN Team To Arrive

LD2306102392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0953 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau, June 23 TASS—President Mircea Snegur of Moldova told the parliament here today that armed groups of separatists backed by Fourteenth Army continued their offensive along the line of confrontation over the past 24 hours.

The Moldovan president said these actions were aimed at annihilating the people of Moldova.

Snegur told the parliament that a message informing the U.N. secretary general about the aggression by Fourteenth Army in Moldova was delivered to the U.N. top official. "Mr. Butrus-Ghali expressed concern over the developments in the Republic and U.N. experts will arrive in the republic in a day or two on a fact-finding mission," Snegur said.

Snegur also said attempts had been made to get in contact with Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Monday [22 June] to clarify the message behind the Russian president's statement on Monday. "With the help of Romanian President Ion Iliescu, we reached a sensible decision on the ceasefire", Snegur said. "Nevertheless, firing continued until five o'clock in the morning in some places. Firing has stopped by now".

According to the Moldovan president, reports that 300 people were killed in Bendery were not true. "It is not accidental that the city authorities issued instructions to bury the dead without identification. If this happens, by the end of the week it would be reported that 3,000 people were killed," Snegur said.

Parliament Appeals to World Community for Help

AU2306114192 Bucharest Radio Romania Network
in Romanian 1000 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Septimiu Roman report from Chisinau]

[Text] Today, 23 June 1992, is the second anniversary of the proclamation of the sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova. This event was marked at the opening of this morning's parliament proceedings by the president of this body, Mr. Alexandru Mosanu. Here is an excerpt of the speech made by the parliament president:

[Begin Mosanu recording] On 23 June 1990 we proclaimed our sovereignty, which was a result of a strong movement aimed at freedom. The event took place under the favorable conditions that were created in the USSR when the Soviet empire had reached an advanced stage of disintegration. 23 June 1990 was the first step toward independence, which we proclaimed more than a year later. [end recording]

The floor was then taken by Mr. Mircea Snegur, president of the Republic of Moldova, who briefed the deputies on the overnight situation in the conflict area and on the result of the appeal sent yesterday to UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali.

Referring to the situation in the area, President Snegur mentioned that yesterday the separatists, supported by the 14th Army, continued their attacks on all fronts, especially in Cocieri, which is almost destroyed after 1,500 mines were launched, as well as in Cosnita, Varnita, and the town of Tighina [Bendery].

The UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali has responded to the message sent by the presidency of the Republic of

Moldova by expressing concern over the situation that has been created and affirming that he will send experts and observers to the site.

Last night, President Boris Yeltsin repeated his threats against President Mircea Snegur, affirming that he will take effective measures, without, however, specifying the nature of those measures.

President Ion Iliescu's mediation has somewhat calmed down the situation in the conflict area, Mr. Snegur also affirmed.

Yesterday, after the parliament discussed the draft law on the deterioration of the situation in the republic following the foreign intervention in the domestic affairs of the Republic of Moldova, this five-point decision was today adopted and is entitled: Parliament Decision on Certain Ways and Means to Settle the Conflict in the Eastern Rayons of the Republic of Moldova.

Likewise, due to the late hour at which last night's meeting ended, the parliament Presidium sent an overnight appeal to the peoples, parliaments, and governments of the world states.

The appeal draws the attention of public opinion to the direct involvement of the 14th Army and to the threats made by the leadership by the Russian Federation, asking the peoples, parliaments, and governments of the world states to intervene by all ways and means to curb the aggression launched by the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation.

At the same time, the appeal requests that experts from other states and international forums be sent to Moldova to examine, on the spot, the actions taken in the Republic of Moldova by the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation. The presidium appeal was endorsed today by being voted as a document of the parliament of the Republic of Moldova.

After a break, debates will be resumed.

Bendery Prisoners Released 'To Kill Civilians'

*LD2306091492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0500 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[Text] Late on Monday [22 June] evening the warring sides in Bendery concluded a cease-fire until this

morning, ITAR-TASS reports. Electric power in the city is cut off. Fires, which started as a result of attacks, continue to burn.

Meanwhile, in another report, ITAR-TASS states that the Moldovan Special Purpose Militia Detachment [OMON], which had captured Bendery prison, has set free 330 criminals who had been convicted for very serious crimes. They were all given weapons and told to kill civilians. According to ITAR-TASS, the criminals were promised freedom in exchange for killing five civilians.

Dniester Guards Reportedly Pull Out of Bendery

*LD2306112492 Moscow Programma Radio Odin
Network in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[Text] According to the NEGA agency, at 0400 today the main forces of the Dniester guards left Bendery. This is connected with great losses sustained by them during the shelling of the town by artillery and rocket-launchers. The guards have taken up positions on the right bank of the Dniester bridge, not having renounced their intention to return to Bendery.

The 14th Army, the agency reports, is retaining its neutrality.

Quadripartite Meeting Underway in Chisinau

*AU2306115092 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1108 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 23/6/1992—On Monday [22 June] during the consultative meeting of the deputy foreign ministers of the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Romania and Ukraine in Chisinau the participants discussed the events in the armed conflict area of Tighina [Bendery] town, which have taken a great toll on the civilian population.

They reasserted the necessity to continue the efforts to find ways to negotiate a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

The participants also approached the matter of the military observers' activity in the town of Tighina, and heard a report by the leaders of the military observers' group.

Tajikistan

Parliament Presidium Threatens To Resign

LD2306111792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1059 GMT 23 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe June 23 TASS—The Presidium of the Tajikistan parliament came up with an ultimatum at its extraordinary meeting last night. The document it adopted demanded that the national conciliation government and President Rakhman Nabiyev take urgent measures to stabilize the social and political situation in the republic.

The statement stresses that the efforts made by the government and the president to bring about national reconciliation between warring political forces, and the disarmament of unlawful military formations proved ineffective and brought Tajikistan to the verge of a split and civil war.

The parliament Presidium said the top echelons of power are fully paralyzed, which breeds lawlessness and legal arbitrariness. Bloodshed continues, the economy is paralyzed, interstate links are disrupted and personal safety of citizens is under threat in the republic.

The statement says that unless the new government and personally President Rakhman Nabiyev who, according to the Presidium, has to take responsibility for the aggravation of the political situation in Tajikistan, take emergency steps in the next few days, the Presidium will call an emergency session of the parliament and tend its collective resignation.

National Salvation Committee Leader Interviewed

LD2206174892 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network
in Tajik 1200 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Dear listeners, as you know, the Committee for National Salvation led by Shodmon Yusufov, chairman of the Democratic Party of Tajikistan, was formed yesterday in the city of Dushanbe. Today the Committee for National Salvation held its first sitting. What are the reasons for the formation of the Committee for National Salvation? Our reporter has conducted the following interview with Shodmon Yusufov:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] The Committee for National Salvation was formed yesterday. It will be useful for our radio listeners to know to what extent the tasks of this committee have been defined.

[Yusufov] The basic tasks of the Committee for National Salvation, in my opinion, are the guaranteeing of the integrity and unity of the Tajik people and the (?stability) and independence of the state of Tajikistan. Today, we are witnessing how the government of the president and the current government in the localities—organizations which [words indistinct] organs which

should protect the people—are in fact not fulfilling this task and in some rayons have even committed crimes together with their [word indistinct] groups and fought against the ordinary people. We formed this committee for the protection of the homeland.

[Reporter] It has become apparent recently that the ordinary people—that is, those who have risen to the defense—have no faith in the workers of internal affairs bodies. What I [words indistinct] for myself is that currently you are working jointly. The (?government) of Kurgan-Tyube proved this. The opposition of these groups, who today are armed, have no confidence. How will these branches which you have formed in all the rayons operate?

[Yusufov] You have correctly stated that the internal affairs department and Committee for National Security of the republic are working together [words indistinct] and I am fully confident that if they stand by the people and the homeland and the unity of the Tajik people we can guarantee the well-being and unity of Tajikistan. About [figure indistinct] rayons have phoned the branches which have now been formed in the rayons.

Representatives from the executive committees have joined the branches and are working under the instructions of our headquarters. Even in the republic's largest oblast, Leninabad Oblast [word indistinct] 800 of the intelligentsia from Leninabad Oblast have (?given their support) and similarly in the Kurgan-Tyube Oblast and other rayons in the republic.

We think that if today in Kurgan-Tyube the chairman of the executive committee [passage indistinct] city and Kalininabad city are together with our representatives. I fully believe that the [word indistinct] the (?insurgent) groups [word indistinct] and others similar to them should be [word indistinct]. There is no other way. [passage indistinct] Tajikistan is in a very complex situation. The president was unable to do anything and he (?permitted) the Tajik people to engage in fratricidal war. He personally and [words indistinct].

I believe that if the (?courageous) people through assistance.... [sentence as heard] Today many criminal groups are operating in Kulyab Oblast. They are sacrificing their own brothers and a parasitic and [words indistinct] group which have in the course of 70 years paralyzed and weakened the republic are [words indistinct] for remaining in power. This is very immature. Today the people of Tajikistan are aware and will not permit any force, either from outside or inside, to divide the Tajik people.

[Reporter] Our conversation leads to another, final question. You give the impression during your talks as if a third force is operating. Can you state openly what this third force is? And if this can be specific, what is the goal of this third force at home and who are they?

[Yusufov] The third force today is known. The third force is the representatives of the old system who want by

all means to establish in Tajikistan a dictatorial and fascist regime. Its name, of course, is the Communist Party of Tajikistan, whose activists are in all the rayons of Kulyab and which are engaging in [word indistinct] operations. They are committing crimes against the nation and the homeland. They are striving, as before, to make them [word indistinct] slaves. [words indistinct] of the Communist Party in their hands not to give it up.

President Nabyev, of course, is in with them. Without Rakhmon Nabyev there could not have been so much bloodshed. From this you can see that the protector of the law, Nurullo Khuvaydullayev [chairman of the Issues of Legislation and Citizens' Rights and Appeals], in the past worked for many years in the Central Committee of the Communist Party and had an income from there and a good life. They even created a socialism for themselves. [end recording]

Government Forces Control Kurgan-Tyube Oblast

LD2306090492 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network
in Tajik 0400 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Dear radio listeners. As you were informed, armed attacks by the opposition forces against the government of national accord in the [names indistinct] rayons of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast left many persons wounded and dead. We will keep you informed about the situation in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast. Our correspondent reported from Kurgan-Tyube that yesterday, in the [names indistinct] districts there was shooting. According to the reports we have received there are many wounded. The number of dead is not known. Among the wounded is one of the leaders of the popular forces, Qari Mukhammad Dzhon. Some of the [word indistinct] buildings of the oblast are in the hands of those opposing the government of national accord.

Yesterday in Kurgan-Tyube, most of the enterprises did not work. Transport is also not working. [Passage indistinct]

The situation in Kurgan-Tyube oblast is under the control of the armed forces of the government of national accord.

Further on Shooting

LD2206120392 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] As was reported on 20 June trilateral talks were held between the government of national accord, its supporters, and the opposition in the Kurgan-Tyube airport building. The corresponding protocol was signed.

Yesterday, as you heard, dear radio listeners, the so-called (Langerov) group from the [word indistinct] from Kulyab oblast carried out armed attacks on Kurgan-Tyube and [words indistinct] rayons. [passage indistinct]

In (Vakhskiy) rayon, as a result of the shootings eight people were killed and 20 wounded. [words indistinct] of the dead and the wounded [words indistinct].

The situation remains complicated in Kolkhozobodskiy rayon. It is calm in [word indistinct] rayon. Presently the situation is under the supervision of the joint forces of the oblast Committee for National Security, [words indistinct] under the authority of Tajik Deputy Prime Minister Davlat Usmonov.

Government Introduces Border Guard Posts

LD2206160592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1555 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Dushanbe June 22 TASS—Tajikistan's National Salvation Headquarters has issued an order to form border outposts on the approaches to the Kulyab and Kurgan-Tyube regions. The border posts will inspect vehicles, coming into and out of the republic and seize weaponry, the National Salvation Headquarters added.

Turkmenistan

Commission Approves Niyazov Reelection

OW2206192092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1717 GMT 22 Jun 92

[From the "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Saparmurad Niyazov was re-elected as Turkmenistan's president after winning almost a unanimous vote in Sunday's [21 June] presidential election in which he stood as the sole candidate.

Officials of the Central Election Commission told IF [INTERFAX] on Monday that there was a 99.8% turnout, with 99.5% voting in favour of Niyazov's candidacy. The election follows last month's adoption of the republic's new constitution.

Commission Chairman Orazov speaking afterwards said that the election results "have indicated trust in Niyazov by the republic's multi-ethnic population". He said Turkmenistan was the only region where different ethnic groups lived together in peace.

The Election Commission on Monday approved the voting results, and president-elect is to be sworn in to office on Friday [26 June].

IF Note: Ethnic Turkmenian and born in 1940, Niyazov graduated from Leningrad's Polytechnic College in 1967. He worked as foreman and senior foreman at a local hydro-electric station until 1970. His subsequent career covers a string of government and party jobs until his appointment as the republic's prime minister in 1985 followed by his election as party chief in December of the same year. In January 1990, he was elected as leader of the Turkmenian parliament and became the country's first president after elections ten months later. Niyazov

is also in charge of the democratic party, formerly communist. He is married and has two children.

Further on Election Results

*OW2206123992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1137 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO; all quotation marks as received]

[Text] Saparmurad Niyazov was elected President of Turkmenistan virtually unanimously at the elections in that Central Asian Republic on June 21st.

Monday's [22 June] report for INTERFAX from Turkmenistan's Central Election Commission says that 1 million 883 thousand 827 people or 99.8 percent of the electorate took part in the elections. 1 million 874 thousand 357 constituents (99.5 percent) favoured Mr. Niyazov.

He was the only candidate to the Presidency at the elections, conducted in keeping with Turkmenistan's new constitution, approved by the Republican Parliament on May 18th.

The Commission's Chairman Kurban Orazov, commenting on the election returns, has told an INTERFAX correspondent that the outcome "testifies to the multinational population's trust for Mr. Niyazov. "Our region is the only one where all, regardless of their ethnic origin, live in harmony—Mr. Niyazov remarked.

The Commission is to endorse the final election results in the first half of the day on June 22nd, after which Mr. Niyazov is to be presented with a temporary certificate of President of the Republic.

Troops Reportedly Violate Afghan Border

*LD2206121992 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
1136 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[From the "Military News" section]

[Text] Dushanbe—On June 22, 2 tanks, 2 APCs and 2 cars violated the Afghan-Turkmen border. The column got some 3 kilometers deep into the Turkmen territory and returned. An investigation is under way.

Armenia

Supreme Soviet Discusses Nagorno-Karabakh

NC2206211092 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First
Program Network in Armenian 1650 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Report by Mavr Danielyan from the Armenian Supreme Soviet session held in Yerevan on 22 June—recorded]

[Text] [Danielyan] The previous Supreme Soviet session held the first round of discussion on the political aspects of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem and the deputies decided to hold the second round of discussion at the next session.

Before examining this issue today, the parliament heard brief reports from President Levon Ter-Petrosyan and Kapanskiy Rayon Soviet Executive Committee Chairman Hayrabetyan and approved the president's decree declaring a state of emergency in Megrinskiy and Kapanskiy Rayons.

Supreme Soviet Chairman Babken Ararktsyan then noted that in line with the Supreme Soviet decision, today's extraordinary session would hold a second round of discussion on the political aspects of Nagorno-Karabakh problem. The deputies decided to televise the discussion. President Ter-Petrosyan addressed the session:

[Ter-Petrosyan] Esteemed Chairman and Deputies, in opening the political debate on Nagorno-Karabakh, I have been given the podium to present a concrete plan for solving that problem. [words indistinct] Nothing new will be added to what was said during the parliament's closed sessions or to those foreign policy actions which already have been conducted to solve the Nagorno-Karabakh problem. What is positive here is that this time around, the session is being held before the people [passage indistinct].

If we want to truly, resolutely, and politically analyze the causes of our failure, then they are already obvious to me. I am not trying to (?accuse) any particular person, party, or authority. There were basically three reasons for the failure. If we remove these causes, we also will be eliminating these deplorable situations [words indistinct].

The first basic cause of failure was that, unfortunately, and I state it with great sorrow, the Nagorno-Karabakh problem has been turned into a trump card used in struggles between parties in both Karabakh and Armenia. [words indistinct] This card also was used in Azerbaijan by various forces, and we saw the chain of political crises Azerbaijan suffered as a result. If this trump card is not removed from our inter-party conflicts, then failures always will accompany us.

The second primary cause for failure is: As a result of these inter-party struggles, for the last three or four

months the Armenian and Karabakh authorities have made political decisions without coordination. This never happened during the last four years of the national liberation struggle in Nagorno-Karabakh. [words indistinct] This is the bitter (?truth) and we must overcome it if we really want to avoid these tragic losses and solve the Nagorno-Karabakh problem and other national problems with the joint efforts of all Armenians.

The third important cause is that the Nagorno-Karabakh authorities, inspired by their military successes, never thought nor attempted to augment those military successes with political and diplomatic steps. This is unforgivable. Today it is not possible to throw the gauntlet before the world and violate all the norms of international law and not abide by the [word indistinct] regulations of international diplomacy. Along with military operations and self-defense actions, [words indistinct] vigorous diplomatic activity should have been launched at international forums of all levels. Therefore, I have to note that the most tragic case of negligence by the Nagorno-Karabakh officials was—despite our repeated insistence, agreements between the Karabakh Supreme Soviet chairman and Armenian authorities, and even despite the decision by the Nagorno-Karabakh Supreme Soviet Presidium and Supreme Soviet that Karabakh must take part in the preparatory conference in Rome—that they did not participate in it. Armenia now finds itself in a very difficult situation. [words indistinct] Nagorno-Karabakh was seen by the international community as favoring armed force and evading a political resolution of the problem and mutual concessions. This was an enormous political loss.

Because Karabakh is not taking part in this peace process, it is not Karabakh but Armenia which appears to be the party to the conflict with Azerbaijan. We have lost enormous political dividends because of this. It would have been better if Karabakh and Azerbaijan had appeared on one level as the conflicting sides, and Armenia and Turkey as the sides helping and defending the positions of the conflicting sides. Because of this, the Azerbaijani-Turkish front was stronger at those talks, for Armenia was there alone and, independent of our will, as the sole party to the conflict.

If we do not realize this and quickly correct our mistakes, we might find ourselves facing great (?difficulty). Now, about the peace process:

The Minsk conference will take place soon [words indistinct]. Our approach to this peace conference is the following, and I am pleased to say that after extensive talks and negotiations, our position is being defended by the chairman of the Minsk conference, Mario Rafaelli. [words indistinct] Our position is that first the security of the Karabakh people should be ensured, a cease-fire should be declared, and roads should be reopened in the presence of the international observers [words indistinct]. This is Armenia's position. At this first stage, the status of Nagorno-Karabakh should not be discussed, because if this becomes a subject of discussion, the talks

will (?stall) and the peace process will be drawn out. We need peace as much as water, for each day of war brings bitter losses. Following assurance of the people's safety, during the second phase of the talks one could negotiate for years on the status of Nagorno-Karabakh and other legal issues. The important thing is to obtain international guarantees for the safety the Nagorno-Karabakh people and to return life to normal. This is our approach [words indistinct]. I think we have no other alternative. The only alternative is war, which would be destructive for Karabakh and Armenia. [passage indistinct]

Regarding Karabakh's status at the peace conference: Karabakh officials argued that they are not being invited to Rome as full participants, but as observers or representatives of the Armenian community and so on. [words indistinct] Only 11 CSCE countries are included in the conference. Unfortunately, Karabakh is not a member of CSCE and hence cannot be included in the conference as a full member. [words indistinct] Armenia and Karabakh could be salvaged from possible destruction if peace is established. Peace could be established with the deployment of international peacekeeping forces. That, in a way, would mean recognition of Nagorno-Karabakh's borders. Where such forces are deployed—as in Cyprus—that line becomes a permanent [word indistinct] border. We must work for this, and if we achieve it—and I have great doubts that it could succeed, because our internal disputes keep us from mobilizing our efforts—I will consider it the greatest victory for the Armenian people. I have ended my statement and am ready to listen to you [passage indistinct]

[Danielyan] Next spoke Defense Minister Vazgen Sargsyan.

[Sargsyan] I want to read out a statement by the Armenian Defense Ministry: As a result of the acute aggravation of the military-political situation in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, concern has developed among the population and even a feeling of panic has gripped certain circles.

The Armenian Defense Ministry insists that there is no cause for panic. The latest military failures in Shaumyanovskiy Rayon, as in case of all the wars, must be seen as a cruel and yet natural aspect of war, and must prompt us to rally around our national interests and objectives. Those people are victorious who accept defeats as naturally as successes. No one who struggles is ensured against failing. Only those who draw lessons from temporary failures, mobilize themselves, and continue the struggle with resolve gain final victory.

The Armenian Defense Ministry is doing everything possible to emerge from this difficult situation with honor, and it will succeed in this. Our overall military successes far outweigh our failures. Everything could collapse if we fall into the enemy's trap and [words indistinct] and use our failures for party and group interests. Certain parties are working on the principle that, the more complex the situation, the better for them. Through rallies, the media, and at places of employment they are disrupting the

already [word indistinct] situation in the Republic. They are creating divisions among the masses, and are trying to set up armed formations. All this is affecting the defense of the Republic and the activities of the Defense Ministry. The conscription rate is being impeded, desertions are on the rise, and military discipline is lacking. [words indistinct] The volunteer formations are being drawn into party politics. This might put the Republic face to face with the threat of civil war.

Proceeding from the above, the Armenian Defense Ministry proposes:

1. To introduce martial law in the Armenian regions bordering Azerbaijan.
2. To temporarily terminate the activities of all political parties in Armenia during the entire course of the combat operations.
3. To raise the issue of criminal responsibility of those who are organizing or trying to organize illegal armed formations.
4. To temporarily ban the organization and holding of demonstrations, rallies, and marches in Armenia.
5. To introduce military censorship in the mass media.
6. To prohibit the free flow of men of military age and of conscripts from the Republic.
7. To ban the free travel of people to Nagorno-Karabakh and to the areas of military operations in Armenia.
8. To create military councils under the chairmanship of the president's military representatives in areas of military operations. The councils should be given full authority to tackle defense matters in the regions under their control.
9. In case of failure to adopt these measures, the leadership of the Armenian Defense Ministry cannot assume responsibility for ensuring the security of Armenia's borders and people.

[Danielyan] Next, Sargsyan replied to deputies' questions. A debate was opened on this statement. The Supreme Soviet will continue its session tomorrow.

President Decrees Internal Troops Organization

NC2206151792 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First
Program Network in Armenian 1850 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan on 21 June signed decrees on organizing internal troops under the Armenian Interior Ministry and on additional social benefits for the families of servicemen, fighters, and civilians who died during the defense [words indistinct] of Armenia.

The decrees will be published in the press.

Minister Proposes Martial Law in Border Areas

LD2306081592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0500 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] According to AZERINFORM, on 22 June Armenian armed formations started a massive offensive along the Azerbaijani-Armenian border. Sadarak and Ordubad rayon centers as well as the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic have come under especially heavy fire.

Armenian sources report that the Azerbaijani side attacked Askeran, but the attack was rebuffed. Meanwhile, Armenian Defense Minister Vazgen Sarkisyan, has proposed that parliament declare martial law in border areas of the republic.

Russian Ambassador Comments on Goals, Plans

LD2206184892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 2351 GMT 19 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 20 Jun—"I see my role as doing everything possible to promote the resolution of Armenia's problems and those of the region through specific proposals," Vladimir Stupishin, the Russian Federation's first ambassador to Armenia, stated. Following his arrival in Yerevan tonight, he is to meet leaders of the republic, present his credentials to the president of Armenia, and work on "progressing technical issues connected with the opening of Russia's Embassy."

Asked by your ITAR-TASS correspondent about settlement of the situation in the Transcaucasus, V. Stupishin noted that "we shall, together with our Armenian friends, seek compromise formulae that will enable us to find realistic ways to arrive at a settlement of all the difficult problems." We are for peace, but this peace has to be built; we shall do this together, the diplomat stated.

Further on Remarks

LD2206185392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 2143 GMT 20 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 21 Jun—Russia relates with understanding and sympathy to the difficulties which are being encountered by Armenia, both in the resolution of domestic problems and in interrelations with the outside world, Vladimir Stupishin, Russian ambassador to this republic, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent, who presented his credentials on 20 June. We, he said, sincerely desire the quickest possible cessation of the bloodshed and beatings of civilians and the cessation of the transport and economic blockade from which the whole population of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh is suffering. We, the ambassador continued, want peace and calm to reign on the basis of a sensible compromise between the legitimate interests of all peoples of Transcaucasia and, it goes without saying, respect for the

natural right of each of them to a free life and independent control of their destiny without any kind of interference, let alone a diktat from without.

Stressing Russia's concern at the continuation of the armed confrontation around Nagorno-Karabakh and on the borders of Armenia and Azerbaijan, V. Stupishin firmly condemned "any attempts at an escalation of armed confrontations capable of putting off a political settlement." According to the ambassador, it is finally time to stop shooting and sit down at the table for negotiations, in which primarily all the directly involved parties and also, perhaps, representatives of intermediary powers and international organizations should participate.

Border Regions 'Tense'; Further on Shelling

NC2306081692 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First
Program Network in Armenian 1650 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] The situation in Armenia's border regions remains tense. The Azerbaijani side continues to shell Armenian settlements with various weapons. Azerbaijani arms and troops remain concentrated.

According to reports from Kapanskiy Rayon, the villages of (Nerkin-Tan) and Sarishen have been getting shelled since this morning. There are no casualties among border guards and civilians, but several houses were destroyed. Along with the concentration of armored cars and troops in Azerbaijan's Zangelanskiy Rayon, these Armenian villages came under fire from automatic weapons and machine guns and were later shelled by long-range artillery. Shelling was continuing at 1600.

At the request of the rayon's Supreme Soviet, a state of emergency has today been introduced in Kapanskiy Rayon. The Rayon Soviet Executive Committee's first deputy chairman, (Igit) Hambartsumyan, told an ARMENPRES correspondent that the measure would further clarify defense cooperation between the regional administrative bodies and military units and would help to better target resources.

Yeraskh in Araratskiy Rayon was shelled today from the Azerbaijani military base in Sadarak, when one freedom fighter was wounded.

The exchange of fire, occasionally accompanied by artillery and Grad rockets, intensifies at certain evening hours. The Armenian self-defense forces put it down to the change of guards. The enemy provokes with fire from Sadarak, but our border guards try to avoid responding.

The absence of a telephone link meant the ARMENPRES correspondent could not communicate with Vardnisskiy Rayon.

Relative calm has prevailed in the republic's other regions since this morning.

Commentary Assesses Russian Involvement

NC2206192592 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri
1330 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Commentary by Eduard Stepanyan: "The Situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and Armenia's Border Rayons"]

[Text] Azerbaijani leaders recently have increased their number of armed attacks on Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia. After occupying Shaumyanovskiy Rayon as a result of their wide-ranging attacks, the usurpationist Azerbaijani Armed Forces have been maintaining their onslaughts against Mardakertskiy and Askeranskiy Rayons and other residential areas in Nagorno-Karabakh. These residential areas have been systematically fired on with tanks, tracked vehicles, artillery guns, and Grad rockets. Countless homes and vital installations have been destroyed in the recent Azerbaijan Army attacks. Many peaceful residents have been killed or wounded. Many of them are women, old people, and children.

Meanwhile, Azerbaijan's mass media organs and the Russian Ministry of Defense have tried to refute reports that CIS armed units have taken part in the clashes, particularly those in the towns of Shaumyanovskiy Rayon. Eyewitnesses and participants in the clashes, however, have disclosed more than once that Russian soldiers and officers fought with the Azerbaijani troops during the wide-scale attacks on Shaumyanovskiy Rayon. In fact, their number was more than that of the Azerbaijani military personnel and they operated the military vehicles. The majority of those who were killed in the clashes were Russians. There is a significant amount of evidence which confirms this fact. In short, the Azerbaijan Army units are opening a road for themselves to paradise with Russian bayonets.

Units and armored vehicles of the CIS 23d Division, which is based in Azerbaijan, are taking part in the clashes in Mardakertskiy and Askeranskiy Rayons and in other areas. We must note that many of them are mercenary troops. Meanwhile, developments confirm that the Azerbaijan Armed Forces' attacks have been obstructed. The self-defense forces and the Nagorno-Karabakh residents, who have picked up arms and begun a partisan war in accordance with the call made by the Nagorno-Karabakh Supreme Soviet, have inflicted serious blows on the usurpers. They have forced them to retreat. The counterattacks gradually will be expanded to cover every corner of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Leading Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] officials are carrying out plans to strengthen the NKR's defense against the Azerbaijani attacks and liberate NKR's occupied areas. The call made to the people in NKR's Shaumyanovskiy Rayon can be regarded as an example. The call said in part that the soil tread upon by the usurpers must burn. In view of this, all the people must

move to unite and struggle. Thousands of residents responded to the call. They adopted the slogan: Homeland or death.

Leninavan and other residential areas in Mardakertskiy Rayon were recently liberated. Violent clashes are taking place at present to liberate Nakhichevanik and other towns in Askeranskiy Rayon.

Azerbaijani Army units tried to penetrate the defense line in Askeranskiy Rayon at 0100 on 19 June. They used many armored vehicles, tanks, and military helicopters. The self-defense forces in the NKR, however, inflicted serious losses on the enemy units and forced them to retreat. Tens of the usurpers were killed or wounded. Six Armenian freedom fighters were killed. The usurpers intensively shelled the rayon center and other residential areas in Askeranskiy Rayon at the same time. (Nurshid) in Martuninskiy Rayon was fired from Gulably with heavy tanks before the rayon center in Askeranskiy Rayon was attacked. Two houses were destroyed in the town. Norishen was fired on during the past two days. An Armenian resident was wounded.

Clashes are taking place in other parts of the NKR as well. Azerbaijan Army units have suffered many casualties and lost a large amount of military hardware.

Meanwhile, the situation on Armenia's border with Azerbaijan has been tense, as has been the case during the past few days. Leading officials in Azerbaijan have prepared for a wide-scale attack against Armenia. This is indicated by the disclosure made by the president of that Republic. Large units and military vehicles have been massed in Azerbaijan's Zangelanskiy and Ordubadskiy Rayons and in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic. The peaceful people are being moved out of these areas. Obviously, our neighbors are preparing to attack Megrinskiy Rayon in Armenia. They have forgotten, however, that Armenia's territory is not an area where they can promenade. If there is an attack, then we shall retaliate against our adversaries in every direction.

We believe the Azerbaijani leaders eventually will realize the consequences of deepening the confrontation and will avoid playing with fire. Although our people want peace and security, they are capable of defending their territorial integrity.

The situation in Armenia's Kapanskiy, Gorisskiy, and other border rayons continues to be tense. The necessary measures have been taken to obstruct the provocations of the neighboring republic. None of the crimes committed by the neighboring side will remain unanswered. All their firing positions will be removed. But this is not the way to remove the undesirable situation. The only way to resolve the problems is to hold talks. Armenia's leaders have said more than once that they are prepared to hold talks. Regrettably, however, regardless of the fact that the neighboring side has agreed to hold talks in the past, it is reluctant to do so at present. In fact, it is maintaining its attacks and raids on the NKR and Armenia.

Azerbaijan

Armenian Claims of Russian Help Rejected

*LD2206200792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in
Russian 1639 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Correspondent Islam Kuliyeve report]

[Text] I want to begin my report on the events in Azerbaijan with a statement by the press service of the president of the Azerbaijan Republic. It states in particular:

The accusations against Russia of aiding and abetting Azerbaijan made by representatives of official circles and information services of Armenia are groundless and without foundation. This has been stated quite convincingly by the press center of the Russian Ministry of Defense. Armenia's demands that parity be restored in the region appear absurd. They are, paradoxical though they may seem, coming from a state which was the first to join a bilateral military bloc with Russia and thus torpedoed the collective agreement of the CIS and which long before this began using mercenary forces and weapons from foreign countries in the Karabakh conflict.

As for the items of military hardware transferred to Azerbaijan by units of the former USSR army, this has been determined by bilateral, interstate agreements between Azerbaijan and Russia and there could be no parity on such matters with Armenia because Azerbaijan, in contrast to Armenia, did not join the military-political bloc of five CIS states.

Azerbaijan consistently adheres to the principle of neutrality in the region, is not joining any blocs, and is striving to stop the spread of armed clashes and to prevent neighboring states becoming involved in them, the statement by the press service of the president of the Azerbaijan Republic says.

In the meantime, against the background of such demagogical demands, Armenian armed formations are transporting armored vehicles and manpower from Armenian territory along the Lachin corridor to seized Azerbaijani populated centers, reinforcing the towns of Askeran and Khodzhal. On the other hand, according to reports by the Ministry of Defense of Azerbaijan, the civilian population is being evacuated from the Megrinskiy rayon of Armenia. Armored vehicles and rocket and artillery launchers are also being transferred there and populated centers of lowland Karabakh and rayons bordering with Armenia are being shelled simultaneously both from the territory of Armenia and from occupied Karabakh.

Fierce fighting has developed on the approaches to Agdam. All last night and until morning, the town itself was subjected to concentrated shelling, and a large number of houses and administrative buildings were

destroyed. The attempt by the Armenian Armed Forces to seize four populated centers of this rayon brought no results. Now, the armed forces of Armenia are shelling Zangelanskiy, Kubatliinskiy, and Kazakhskiy Rayons and also the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic from their territory.

These facts demonstrate once again that, as before, while assuring the public of its adherence to peace and to a peaceful settlement of the Karabakh conflict, the Armenian side is not giving up on its aggressive plans and is trying with all its might to seize as much territory of Azerbaijan as possible.

Ministry Confirms Russians Serving in Forces

*LD2206141192 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Azerbaijan's Defense Ministry has confirmed the fact that soldiers of Russian nationality, who are citizens of the Azerbaijan Republic, are serving in the ranks of the republic's self-defense forces. In February 1992 a lawyer, Vladimir Kozlov, and a factory electrician, Vladimir Malinov, appealed to Azerbaijan's Russian population to rise up with arms to defend the country and came forward with the initiative of creating a volunteer international formation. Today the international brigade of 600 men is part of the national self-defense forces.

According to Azerbaijan Defense Ministry information the last 24 hours have been relatively quiet in Nagorno-Karabakh. The sides contented themselves with exchanges of fire.

Further Reportage on Fighting, Border Offensive

*NC2206192392 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri
1700 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[Text] The Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense Analytical Information Center has disclosed the following:

The situation in Karabakh, particularly in the Agdamskiy Rayon area, has suddenly become tense. Agdam was intermittently fired on with Grad rockets from 1600 on 21 June to 0400 on 22 June. There is damage in the city.

The Armenians yesterday attacked [two names indistinct] and Agbulak. The field defense units of the Azerbaijan Armed Forces inflicted heavy losses on the enemy units and forced them to retreat. [passage indistinct] A relative calm was established in Agdam. The Azerbaijani Army units are continuing their operations in the direction of Askeran.

The Azerbaijan Armed Forces (?engaged in violent clashes) around Mardakert. The enemy units, which resisted for some time, were completely uprooted and

dispersed. The Azerbaijanis recaptured Mardakert. Our fighters have begun to reinforce their positions in the city. [passage indistinct]

[Name indistinct] and Suleymanly in Dzhebrail'skiy Rayon have been intermittently fired on from Gadрут with automatic firearms and machine guns.

Although the situation on our Republic's border with Armenia has been relatively calm, the situation has remained tense. Kazanchi, [name indistinct], and Seidlyar in Zangelanskiy Rayon are being fired on from Armenia's Kapanskiy and Megrinskiy Rayons at present. Meanwhile, Kubatliński, Kel'badzharskiy, Gorenboyskiy, Tauzskiy, Kedabekskiy, Akchapa, and Kazakhskiy Rayons have been relatively calm. Shots have been heard on the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic's border with Armenia periodically, but the situation has been relatively calm.

'Fierce Fighting' Reported

LD2306013392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0000 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The press center of the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry reports that on 22 June fierce fighting continued in the mountain area of Karabakh and also on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. Azer Khalilov reports.

[Khalilov] The Defense Ministry press center reports that Armenian troops continued on 22 June to bombard with rocket and artillery fire practically all villages on Azerbaijan's border with Armenia. Shakhbuzskiy Rayon in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic came under especially heavy fire. A particularly severe situation, the press center notes, has developed in the mountain area of Karabakh and in the areas adjacent to that oblast. On the afternoon of 22 June, Armenian troops launched massive rocket and artillery fire on Agdam'skiy, Fizulinskiy, and Terterskiy Rayons in Azerbaijan, with more than 800 Grad-type projectiles being launched at the town of Agdam. More than 1,000 Kristall and Grad-type rockets were launched at the rayon center of Fizuli. More than 600 Grad-type projectiles were fired at Terter, the rayon center of Terterskiy Rayon. It is reported that there are civilian casualties in all these rayons—the total number is being determined.

An especially fierce battle was fought today around the village of Madagiz in Terterskiy Rayon. It is reported that national self-defense forces managed to repulse further enemy attacks and consolidate themselves in the positions they are occupying. It is reported that Azerbaijani Army units on 22 June destroyed three enemy T-72 tanks and four APC's near that village.

'Mass Offensive' Noted

LD2206225092 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1935 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By unidentified AZERINFORM correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Baku, 22 Jun—"Armenian armed formations assumed a mass offensive along the entire Armenian-Azerbaijani border this afternoon," AZERINFORM reports. The report says that the rayon centers of Sadarak and Ordubad, which are situated in the immediate proximity of the Azerbaijani-Iranian border and the Azerbaijani-Turkish border, are being subjected to a most fierce rocket and artillery bombardment carried out from land and air. There are casualties, and the destruction is vast.

The Armenian armed formations' actions against Nakhichevanik, stated Niyazi Ibragimov, head of the Azerbaijani president's press service, have a clearly provocative character and are aimed at dragging third parties into the conflict, Turkey first and foremost.

[Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1900 GMT on 22 June adds in its "Vesti" newscast: "(?AM), the independent Azerbaijani agency, just reported that an Armenian offensive along the entire Armenian-Azerbaijani border has begun. Combat operations are taking place near the Iranian and Turkish borders. Armenian National Army units went on the offensive in Kedabekskiy Rayon, Azerbaijan, at 2000. Saratovka and other villages with a Russian population are in the zone of military actions."]

Armenian Offensive 'Repelled'

TA2306104292 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network
in Turkish 1000 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The Armenian offensive undertaken against Azerbaijani territories along the common borders has been repelled as a result of the fierce resistance put up by the Azeri Turks. It is reported that the Armenians have withdrawn to their former positions.

A statement by the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry says that eight Azerbaijan Turks were killed and many people were injured in the multisided offensive launched by the Armenians against the Azeri settlements. The statement adds that the situation is calm along the borders at this moment.

The fighting initiated by the Armenian offensive against Ordubad, Savarak, and (?Badoy) regions in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Region [NAR] of Azerbaijan ceased in the morning hours. NAR President Geydar Aliyev said that the Armenians attacked Ordubad, located 200 km north of Sadarak, in a bid to widen the front. In a statement to TRT [Turkish Radio and Television], Aliyev said that initiatives were taken with Armenian officials in order to secure a cease-fire but no results were obtained.

Aliyev concluded by saying that no aid is being received from Azerbaijan as all connecting roads have been cut off by the Armenians and added that their food supplies are being exhausted.

23d Division Chief on Media 'Fabrications'*PM1906161792 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
18 Jun 92 p 1*

[Lieutenant Colonel Nikolay Medvedev report: "Division Commander Outraged"]

[Text] Major General Yuriy Pakhomov, commander of the 23d Motorized Rifle Division deployed in Gyandzha (Azerbaijan Republic), has turned to the Russian Ministry of Defense Press Center. He gives expression to the profound indignation of the combined unit's personnel at the crude fabrications published in certain domestic and foreign media claiming that the division's servicemen and also its combat hardware have been involved in the Azerbaijan-Armenia conflict. Pakhomov has categorically stated that not one of his subordinates, nor a single tank, APC, or any other piece of equipment has taken part in the conflict.

The disinformation spread by the mass media merely serves to further exacerbate an already very complex situation in the region.

Nakhichevan's Aliyev on Turkish Role, Interests*LD2206184792 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[From the "Vesti" program]

[Excerpts] Nakhichevan—the sub-tropics or tropics—to put it simply, once a flourishing land. Now, however, it is known as a combat zone and an enclave on Armenian territory. The situation there really is critical. The Republic of Nakhichevan is under total blockade; an economic, transportation, and information blockade. As long ago as 18 May, Armenian armed forces blew up the TV transmitter near Sadarak and subjected it to daily artillery fire. At the same time, villages stand empty on the border between Nakhichevan and Armenia. Over the last month, 43 local residents have died and 160 have been wounded, but there is nothing with which to treat the wounded. Whenever possible, they are taken to Turkey, but those with serious injuries are fated to die in the hospitals of Nakhichevan. The most complex situation has developed in the area of Sadarak. [passage omitted]

Discussing the likelihood of the cessation of Armenian aggression, the head of the Nakhichevan parliament, the Majlis, explained the possibility of Turkish involvement in the conflict:

[Begin Gaydar Aliyev recording] As for military intervention by Turkey, you know, nothing can be predicted. There are the well-known treaties, which were signed in 1921—the Treaty of Moscow and the Treaty of Kars—and in each of these treaties the condition is provided that the status of the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic cannot be changed without the agreement of Turkey. If there are any changes in the status of the

Republic of Nakhichevan, Turkey has the right to intervene in this issue. [end recording]

Officials Note Economic Goals, Programs*OW2206214992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1714 GMT 22 Jun 92*

[From the "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Azerbaijani government's economic adviser Vakhid Akhundov in an interview to the INTERFAX correspondent outlined the main objective set before the new ministry of economic relations. It will be regulating all the external trade operations conducted by the republic's business circles with foreign companies and private persons. The ministry is instituting an expert group for the purpose of determining the rationale and economic feedback of each transaction. The ministry is also setting up a department for monitoring the republic's customs service with the view to forestall any economic damage to the republic.

Minister of external economic relations Gafiz Babayev told the INTERFAX correspondent Azerbaijan is planning to open its trade representations abroad: the offices in Germany and Great Britain will operate represent [as received] the republic in Europe; an office in the United States—the American continent, and in Turkey—the Middle East and Central Asian countries. The republic's trade representations will be assigned the mission of looking for the partners ready to invest into the republic's economic structures, set up joint ventures, enterprises and joint stock companies.

IF Note: According to the republic's customs committee, dominating in the over-all volume of export in the recent months were various strategic raw materials, such as oil, non-ferrous metals scrap and cotton. In April, the Azerbaijani joint ventures exported from the republic the above materials to the sum amounting to nearly 143 mn [million] convertible rubles. The customs committee is convinced that most of their commissions were deposited in the banks abroad. In April, exported from the republic were close to 633 thousand tons [as received] of oil. The republic's ministry of external affairs contends that the former party nomenclature are playing first fiddle in squandering the national resources. The nomenclature's high-standing proxies, capitalizing on various commercial structures, are selling abroad oil, cotton and other raw materials seeking personal lucre. In the words of minister Gamidov, over a million dollars have been deposited in foreign banks at the accounts of each of the 12 families comprising the crust of the party nomenclature. Minister Gamidov also revealed that the Azerbaijanian government has forwarded conformable inquiries to a number of banks abroad.

Georgia

Shevardnadze Previews Yeltsin Meeting in Dagomys

LD2206175392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1642 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By SAKINFORM correspondents Eduard Ediberidze and Tengiz Grigalashvili for TASS]

[Text] Tbilisi, 22 Jun—As Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze said at an emergency session of the Georgian State Council, Boris Yeltsin had telephoned him a few hours earlier. Shevardnadze said the head of the Russian state expressed serious alarm and concern in connection with the latest developments that have taken place in relations between Russia and Georgia. He also expressed regret that their previous conversation had not yielded desirable practical results in relation to the peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Tskhinvali region. The Russian president proposed that he and the chairman of the Georgian State Council should meet on 24 June in Dagomys, where Boris Yeltsin is expected to meet Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk the previous day, and discuss peacefully at the negotiation table the problems that have arisen.

Eduard Shevardnadze responded positively to the proposal. He noted that in the course of the meeting it is proposed that issues connected with a settlement of the conflict in the Tskhinvali region should be examined, as well as problems regarding cooperation between Georgia and Russia. Eduard Shevardnadze did not rule out the possibility that the dialogue may be resumed on 25 June in Istanbul, as well, where the heads of both states will be taking part in the ceremony to sign the draft for economic cooperation among the countries of the Black Sea basin. The chairman of the State Council confirmed that he remains an adherent of a stage-wise solution of the problem of the Tskhinvali region, having stressed thereby that the initial step should be a cease-fire, as noted in the protocol of the Kazbeg meeting between himself and Akhsarbek Galazov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the North Ossetian Soviet Socialist Republic.

The State Council approved the idea of holding the forthcoming meeting of the president of the Russian Federation and the chairman of the State Council of Georgia, having expressed the hope that it will be held on the appropriate level, in a spirit of constructiveness and mutual understanding.

Meeting in Doubt

LD2306134192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1302 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Tbilisi, June 23 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, head of the Georgian State Council, said he will not go to Dagomys to meet with Russian President Boris Yeltsin if reports that Russia urged the United Nations to suspend Georgia's membership are true.

"Head of the State Council Eduard Shevardnadze said he has to clear it up. If this information is true, his trip to Dagomys scheduled for Wednesday [23 June] will not take place," said a statement circulated by the state council press service here today.

Russia Not To Oppose UN Entry

LD2306143192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1553 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Referring to a telephone conversation between Georgian Foreign Minister Aleksandr Chikvaidze and Andrey Kozyrev, his Russian colleague, Eduard Shevardnadze just reported at the Georgian State Council session that Andrey Kozyrev refuted the report that Russia opposes Georgia's admission into the UN. The Russian Federation foreign minister stated that he actively supports Georgia's admission to the UN at the recommendation of Great Britain. The only thing at issue is the date of the examination of this question. It evidently will take place on 25 June. It is thought that the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs will issue an official denial this evening.

Shevardnadze Interviewed 22 Jun on Situation

LD2306135392 Budapest Kossuth Radio
Network in Hungarian 1050 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Interview granted by Eduard Shevardnadze, "former foreign minister of the USSR and now the head of state of Georgia," granted to reporter Janos Molnar on 22 June in Tbilisi; Shevardnadze remarks in Russian, with superimposed Hungarian translation—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Molnar] [passage omitted] Eduard Amvrosiyevich, what was discussed at today's session of the Georgian National Council?

[Shevardnadze] I will meet Russian President Yeltsin tomorrow and it is natural that today's work was directed toward working out our negotiating position. The working groups are now elaborating the details. The most important thing is that we create a lasting cease-fire in South Ossetia. Without this, all discussion would lose its meaning.

[Molnar] Many people in Moscow believe that you wish to use your international prestige to get the West's support for the Georgian aggression against South Ossetia.

[Shevardnadze] I do not know who thinks this. No doubt there are such voices, but you can believe that this is not what I take to be the standard.

[Molnar] Nevertheless, it does say in the papers that Georgia has started an open aggression against the peaceful South Ossetian population.

[Shevardnadze] It is one thing what they write and another thing what is happening in reality. Although, to tell you the truth, what is important for me is not who

opens fire first. In my view, in fact, every single citizen of Georgia would be a loss, were he of Georgian or Ossetian birth.

[Molnar] You have accused Russia of launching an open aggression against Georgia.

[Shevardnadze] I made that statement in the process of evaluating a single fact. Many Russian leaders in fact made unmistakable statements when they spoke about the possibility of territories under Georgian direction being linked to Russia. Apart from this, the Russian deputy defense minister gave a command for helicopters to attack Georgian settlements.

[Molnar] Is it conceivable that there will be further armed clashes between Russia and Georgia?

[Shevardnadze] I think that matters cannot get as bad as that. In any case, we must handle this issue very carefully. Of course this applies to the Russian leadership just as much as to us. Because if armed clashes were to take place, that would no longer be limited to Georgia and Russia. Precisely for this reason we must use all our strength to prevent armed clashes.

[Molnar] Many allege that in Russia the tendency pursuing big power expansionist foreign policy has the upper hand.

[Shevardnadze] I do not think this is the essence of official Russian foreign policy. But if I think of the statements that were made by the speaker of the Russian parliament, Ruslan Khasbulatov, or Vice President Rutskoy, then I have to say that these are very much warning signs that such endeavors do indeed exist in Russia.

[Molnar] How can the emergence of these ideas be explained?

[Shevardnadze] Unfortunately these traditions do revive from time to time. If democracy fails in Russia, then there would be quite a lot of candidates to fill the ensuing power vacuum.

[Molnar] In Moscow one also frequently hears it said that the Georgian leadership and you personally are behind the aggression launched against South Ossetia.

[Shevardnadze] Naturally, our troops are there and are defending the population of the settlements, not only the Georgian settlements but the strategically important public roads as well.

[Molnar] Then who is killing all those Ossetians?

[Shevardnadze] They are killing each other, everybody is shooting there, the guards are shooting, the population is shooting, and in any case do not forget that the Georgian guards are also being shot at by organized troops.

[Molnar] But how can the bloodshed be stopped?

[Shevardnadze] A cease-fire and the conclusion of peace.

[Molnar] The South Ossetians think that this is not enough, and in their view the solution would be if, seceding from Georgia, they could join Russia.

[Shevardnadze] This is the opinion of the speaker of the South Ossetian parliament. But in my view that notion itself is fairly provocative. I think the Ossetians are themselves aware that this is not a serious or realistic concept. You are Hungarian, are you not? Of course, I know you are Hungarian. Would you, for example, hand over even a small part of your country if a neighboring state asked for it? I do not think you would. Then you can understand that Georgia would not agree to such a solution either.

[Molnar] Nevertheless, what are the chances of you managing to agree with President Yeltsin?

[Shevardnadze] One meeting will certainly not be enough, but we have to start somewhere. Incidentally, with the Ossetians we have already moved out of the deadlock. We have signed a joint statement, we have set up a cease-fire observation joint committee. Then came these extremist pronouncements and they confused everything.

[Molnar] In this case is Russia responsible for the discussions breaking off?

[Shevardnadze] Not Russia, but those leaders I mentioned earlier. In South Ossetia a joint observer group is already in operation. They note down practically everything; who opened fire on whom and when, how many died, what happened and how. At the same time, nobody uses this information and yet this group includes Russians, Ossetians and Georgians. Still, nobody calls them to ask for information about the real situation. It seems it is in some people's interest that the international and Russian public opinion should get false information about the situation. I, for example, get a summary report every day from these observers, and thus I can say that I am acquainted with the real situation. I will just mention that a delegation of the State Council was rescued from one of the villages in a manner bordering on a miracle. Because the Ossetians had surrounded the settlement, and then they started shooting. Three people were wounded and one of our officers died.

[Molnar] How are the units of the Russian Army behaving?

[Shevardnadze] I must say there is no trouble with them. Both we and the Russian commanders are doing everything in order to avoid eventual conflicts. There have not been any serious incidents, though the situation is extremely tense. We do not have any problems with the Russian population either. There have not been any clashes whatever between Russians and Georgians.

[Molnar] Will these good relations also be apparent in the success of the Russian-Georgian discussions?

[Shevardnadze] Definitely.

Note Protests Russian Violation of Sovereignty
LD2306120192 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
1052 GMT 23 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Tbilisi—On June 22 the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a note of protest to the Russian Foreign Ministry concerning the recent developments around the Georgian-Ossetian conflict.

The Russian party has violated the sovereignty of the Georgian Republic, its territory integrity and immunity of Georgian borders. Russia has used force and threatens with force, applies economic and other ways of pressure upon Georgia, interferes in domestic affairs of the republic, reads the note.

All this contradicts with Russia's obligation to develop the relations with Georgia on the basis of principles and standards of international law, the UN Charter, the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference and the Paris Charter of the New Europe, and is also a violation of specific guarantees affirmed by the Russian party in the joint statement of ministers of April 3, 1992, follows the document.

Shevardnadze's 'Open Letter' to Rutskoy Viewed
PM2206214592 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jun 92 p 1

[N. Mikeladze article followed by correspondent R. Zaripov interview with A. Rutskoy; date and place not given: "Points-Scoring"]

[Text] Shevardnadze has sent an open letter to Rutskoy. Here are two excerpts: "When you called me in Tbilisi recently, you said literally the following: 'I will send squadrons up and bomb your cities...'

"Your speeches and statements in the mass media remind me of some of the bellicose statements made during the Afghan War," Shevardnadze goes on to say. "With the single difference that the carefully concealed figures on losses—1.5 million Afghans and 15,000 Soviet officers and men—were not described as genocide. You are now emphasizing the Ossetian side's losses, distorting the actual figures, and are calling for blood on the basis of these statistics of yours on one people's suffering. But I, seeing the heartrending account of all the losses on both sides, do not divide up the dead and distraught by nationality, since they are all my fellow countrymen and I continue to place my trust in the voice of reason."

Our correspondent R. Zaripov met with A. Rutskoy.

[Rutskoy] Until now I had respected Eduard Amvrosiyevich. He said that bandit formations are fighting in South Ossetia, but finally in his appeal to the United Nations and the CSCE he indicated that Russian helicopters had carried out a strike against National

Guard positions. So we can understand who is engaging in genocide and killing people there. Nobody has given anybody the right to kill, you understand. Now the time is coming when these excuses for political leaders will have to answer in full to the international republic.

Everyone should remember that Russia does not intend to go on tolerating this attitude toward the Russian-speaking population and fraternal peoples who are with us in the Commonwealth.

I think that the situation will calm down nonetheless. The world public and the United Nations should react properly.

[Zaripov] Are we talking about sanctions?

[Rutskoy] I think we ought to be.

Tskhinvali Shelling Continues; Situation Updated
LD2306090292 Moscow Programma Radio Odin
Network in Russian 0730 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The situation around Tskhinvali is still extremely tense. Last night the residential areas of the town were under intensive fire from all kinds of weapons until 0500 from the area of the Georgian villages of Nigoza, Tam-arasheni, and Ergneti. According to preliminary information, seven people were seriously wounded. Tskhinvali is still being fired on by infantry weapons at this time. The residents of North and South Ossetia are pinning great hopes on the planned quadripartite meeting in Dagomys between President Boris Yeltsin, Eduard Shevardnadze, and the chairmen of the Supreme Soviets of North and South Ossetia.

[Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian at 0800 GMT on 23 June, in its regular "Novosti" newscast, carries a similar report on the situation in Tskhinvali and adds the following: "A group of South Ossetian deputies has protested the recall of volunteers from North Ossetia. The commander of a volunteer brigade, however, has responded by noting that personnel are being rotated in Tskhinvali and that volunteer forces are being brought up to strength."]

Militia Unable To Cope With 'Bandit Groups'
AU2306120092 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network
in Georgian 0800 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] We have just received by phone the following recording from Tsalenjikha [west Georgia]. Our reporter spoke to [name indistinct], chairman of Tsalenjikha's local administrative council.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] We have received information that, recently, the situation has again become tense in your area. What is happening?

[Chairman] Yes. The situation is indeed tense. One can particularly feel internal tension. This has mainly been caused by bandit groups who have ensconced themselves

on the rayon's territory. According to our information, there are six to eight such bands located in villages whose inhabitants are, to a certain degree, conspiring with them.

[Reporter] Whose people are these?

[Chairman] These are people who have come from various regions who are systematically robbing the population; the hijacking of automobiles and individuals has become a common occurrence. They are causing considerable discord in the general sociopolitical life. Naturally, the population is alarmed. The local law enforcement organs are unable to cope as they are organized bands who are well armed and fairly mobile. Therefore, the population can feel that they are not being protected by us and all this is having a negative influence upon them and their work.

[Reporter] So, the militia are not in control of the situation?

[Chairman] No, they are not in control of the situation. We have to admit that we cannot cope. These bands whom we are talking about—there is no other word for them—comprise approximately 70-100 persons. Their number (?varies). They move daily from one rayon to another and, to all intents and purposes, they can feel that they can act with impunity.

[Reporter] Whose people are they? Are they supporters of the ex-president?

[Chairman] I do not want to speculate but I do not think they are. These are more criminal elements who are simply using this as a pretext to blame the ex-president. However, I do not think they are his people.

[Chairman] What are the local authorities doing?

[Reporter] The local authorities are thinking of activating, so to speak, the population somehow but we cannot cope. Security guards, street patrols. Nothing [words indistinct] this situation.

[Reporter] Are these people armed?

[Chairman] They have machine guns, automatic weapons, hand grenades. In short, they are well-armed and organized bands.

[Reporter] What do you see as the solution?

[Chairman] [words indistinct] intervention [passage indistinct] [end recording]

National Guard To Maintain Public Security

LD2306120792 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
1052 GMT 23 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Tbilisi—The National Guard of Georgia was moved to the Tskhinvali area to maintain public security in Georgian villages, it does not conduct any offensive operations.

The statement of Georgian Foreign Ministry's press-center circulated on June 22 points out that only on June 7 the guard units liberated several Georgian villages seized by Ossetian militants, however they did not occupy any Ossetian villages with the exception of the village of Prisi, and only because Ossetian militants stationed in Prisi for a whole year blocked the only road leading to Georgian villages of the Liakhve Gorge. Also from this base the militants undertook attacks against the Gori district villages. Recently Russian mass media circulated false reports of the Georgian National Guard continuing attacking Tskhinvali and having already occupied a major part of the town. This information is totally groundless and its main purpose is to escalate tension and misguide public opinion, reads the statement.

Ossetian Leader Blames Party for Village Attack

LD2306121592 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English
1052 GMT 23 Jun 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Tbilisi—Only at 3 A.M. of June 22 Georgian guards and policemen managed to lead from the village of Vanati the delegation of the State Council arrived to control cease-fire agreement.

During their meetings and conversations with local residents and National Guard servicemen members of the State Council were shot at from mortars and submachine guns. Fire was opened from the Ossetian village of Dmenisi. Shooting continued until additional units of the National Guard and Interior Ministry fired back.

At the June 22 press-conference Chairman of the Georgian Committee on Inter-ethnic Relations and Human Rights Aleksandr Kavsadze stated that in a late night phone call Ossetian leader Torez Kulunbegov accused the Georgian party of attacking the village of Dmenisi. Mr. Kulunbegov said that the Ossetian party would take foreign journalists from 60 countries to the village so that they could see what the Georgians had made of it.